

The Middlebury Campus

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Honor, Identity, and Administration: The Forgotten History of Middlebury's Honor Code

By Joe Flaherty

It was a harsh Vermont winter in December 1963 and, in the midst of the subzero temperatures, a landmark student life initiative had also frozen over. "The 'question of honor' at Middlebury College seems to have plenty of support as an ideal and not so much as a working system," read a December 5 front-page *Campus* article. The article, which included student concerns about a code's implications, foreshadowed the proposed Honor Code's defeat in a student vote for the second time that May.

Over the past year, the *Campus* has investigated the untold story of the creation of the Honor Code. Although the story of the origins of the Honor Code at Middlebury is often that of a system fashioned by students and for students, the historical picture is much murkier.

A lengthy search in the College Archives and interviews with those who witnessed the process firsthand reveal that the Honor Code had a slightly turbulent history from the start.

It was a story that dominated the early 1960s at the College: a group of students and administrators who saw the Honor Code as an important opportunity for students to take ownership over their education. And yet, they received surprisingly strong pushback from students on the language and specifics of the proposed code.

The code's proponents even dropped a compulsory peer-reporting clause, a hallmark of honor systems at Princeton University and elsewhere, from the Middlebury Honor Code in order to ensure its passage via a student vote. Moreover, after two failed student referenda on the Honor Code, evidence found in the Archives

shows that at least one administrator recommended enacting the Honor Code without a student vote of support. However, in March 1965 the Code received sufficient support in a student vote to pass. Faculty opted for a streamlined approval process to avoid sending the Honor Code back with revisions to be subject to another student referendum, which they thought could be tantamount to its defeat.

The question of student votes on the Honor Code has renewed relevance of late. On Sunday, the Student Government Association (SGA) Senate voted in favor of amending the Honor System's Constitution to put the code to a biennial student referendum with the options to maintain, revise, or eliminate the Honor Code.

Change in the Air

Middlebury's academic Honor Code, far from a lone initiative, was the product of social changes on campus that created profound shifts in student life during the 1960s. The College of the 1930s-50s was on its way out in several ways that precipitated the creation of an Honor

Code.

Historians of the College have written much about the changes that took place in the 1960s. Among these reforms were major social changes to the institutional rules surrounding student freedoms. The influential Dean of Women Elizabeth 'Ma' Kelly oversaw a period in the '60s when the ground shifted under students' feet regarding their freedoms and rights as young men and women.

In the '60s, parietal hours — the now seemingly antediluvian rules that governed when men and women could visit opposite-sex dorms — were gradually phased out. The College began to offer help to students with questions about birth control and sexually transmitted diseases. Finally, the fraternities and sororities, long the bastions of the social life of yesteryear, became less and less of a mainstay of the campus party scene.

Historian of the College David Stameshkin said the '60s were a period of remarkable change, bar none.

SEE HONOR CODE, PAGES 10-12

CCI Revises Internship Funding

By Caroline Agsten

The Center for Careers and Internships (CCI) changed its policies on funding for unpaid student summer internships at the beginning of this year, which has started to generate concern among students as they begin to make their summer plans. The CCI now offers only one-time \$2500 Summer Internship Funding Grants for sophomores, juniors and senior Febs, and a separate \$1000 Explore Grant for first years. This new policy reflects a change from when students could apply multiple times for varied monetary

amounts, including those exceeding \$2500. This is also the first year that these summer internship grants will cover lost wages in addition to logistical expenses.

Despite the change in policy, the application process for these grants remains the same. Students are required to submit an online application, including an essay, budget form and resume. The First Year Explore Grant also comes with the added stipulation of a mandatory resume review before applying. Students who have received summer funding previously are not subject to these

changes and may apply for the set \$2500 grant as well.

This change in funding is attributed to a number of different reasons based on student feedback and previous funding trends. Director of the CCI Peggy Burns said that the new policy is meant to give students the chance to be thoughtful and strategic with their plans.

"We are trying to empower students and have them be really intentional with their choices," she said. "While we believe in letting students have time to explore

SEE CCI, PAGE 3

TOBACCO BAN DISCUSSED

By Philip Bohlman

A discussion on the lack of enforcement of current smoking rules and the possibility of a future tobacco ban is catching the attention of the College community.

The discussion began in November when the SGA Senate passed resolution F2014-SB12, the 2nd Hand Smoke Prevention Initiative, co-sponsored by Senators Michael Brady '17.5 and Aaron de Toledo '16. The bill states: "Be it resolved that the Community Council should address the issue of tobacco smoking on campus and discuss possible methods of enforcement of current policy." Because rules around smoking affect not only students, but also faculty and staff members, responsibility for such an issue lies with Community Council, not the SGA.

The College faces increased pressure to find consensus on the issue due to national trends. What is normally a ubiquitous public health issue has evolved into a question of personal freedoms and feasibility for many institutions. Today, 1,514 campuses in the United States are smoke-free, up from 586 in 2011, and 1,014 are tobacco-free, according to a January 2015 report from the Americans for Nonsmokers Rights.

"Over a thousand campuses have already done this. Are we late to the game? Is this

something where we dropped the ball?" Brady said.

In finding motivation to draft the resolution, Brady pointed to complaints he had received from constituents about smoking, an observed lack of enforcement of the current rule: "Smoking shall not take place within 25 feet of areas where smoke is likely to enter buildings," and personal experience with his recently deceased grandfather, who suffered from lung cancer.

"I actually spoke with an officer from Public Safety and questioned him on this policy on smoking and he did not know it," Brady said.

The bill suggested some possible methods of enforcement, including the relocation of cigarette butt disposal units from entrances and extending the current \$50 fine for smoking indoors to include violations of the 25 foot rule.

The bill not only calls for Community Council to take up the issue of enforcement, but also invites them to discuss the possibility of a tobacco ban. In the short term, they will focus on the former.

"Looking at our current practices, we've let some parts of that policy slide. Instead of designing a new policy, I think we're going to move towards actually implementing our

SEE SMOKING, PAGE 3

NYTIMES FEATURES COLLEGE YIK YAK

Who Spewed That Abuse? Anonymous Yik Yak App Isn't Telling

By JONATHAN MAHLER | MARCH 8, 2015



COURTESY OF IAN THOMAS JANSEN-LONNQUIST FOR THE NEW YORK TIMES

On Sunday, Mar. 8 *The New York Times* featured Jordan Seman '16 in an article about the popular social media app Yik Yak. Seman spoke about her experience as the subject of a sexually offensive post.



CHILI FESTIVAL
MARCH 14
PAGE 4



TA-NEHISI COATES
SPEAKS IN MEAD
CHAPEL
PAGE 13



ABSTRACT DANCE
PERFORMANCE
PAGE 16

COMMUNITY COUNCIL UPDATE

By Emma Dunlap

The Community Council meetings held over the last two weeks focused on the environmental impact of the College and the possibility of a new policy for smoking on campus.

Director of Sustainability Integration Jack Byrne and a number of student members of the Environmental Council attended the Community Council meeting held Mar. 2 to present the College's environmental assessment, which occurs every two years.

"How are we doing? What is the sustainability story that we want to tell about our future?" were two questions Byrne posed to the council. According to Byrne, the College has a strong environmental reputation among higher education institutions. The College's environmental impact and sustainability level is evaluated using a nationwide system, the star system. The College is at the gold star level, which is one step below the platinum star level. No college, however, has ever reached this level.

"The strategic narrative is to educate the students and youth of today to work hard and innovate for sustainability," Byrne said. "How do we equip ourselves and our community with the types of things they (youth) need to sustain the prosperity, the liberty, and the freedom of today's society and to do the stewarding of the resources we need to fuel that?" The assessment will be available online and open to comments until Apr. 30. Discussion will begin May 1 in order to generate a second draft to be reviewed between Aug. 1 and next Oct. 31.

The council then discussed the possibility of "moving the current policy [on tobacco use] to a policy that bans tobacco use on campus," Associate Dean of Students for Residential and Student Life Doug Adams said. "This is not something you go into quickly...it would be a gradual policy." Many colleges have already started the process toward tobacco-free campuses, according to Adams.

"If we banned smoking, we would lose a lot of staff and faculty (of language schools) in the summer because many are coming from other places where smoking is viewed much differently," said Associate Director of Marketing, Recruiting and Admissions for the Language Schools Brook Escobedo.

Blake Shapskinsky '15 added: "It could dramatically impact the shape of the student body and diversity on campus... some internationally students may be more prone to smoke."

The council members agreed that most smokers on campus are not aware of the current policy, which prohibits smoking within 25 feet of any entrance to a building and that Public Safety does not necessarily enforce the policy. There is a "lack of signage," Adams said, even though the policy requires signs in areas where there is a high probability people will smoke.

At the following Community Council meeting on Mar. 9, Adams presented a hard copy of the smoking policy recommendation to the council for discussion. It recommends that the policy of 25 feet be changed to 30 feet from a building, the idea being that 30 feet, or 10 paces, is an easier concept.

After some discussion, the suggestion that Public Safety enforces the new policy was added. In addition, a task force would be implemented in coming years to address enforcement. There is also an education component that would suggest the policy be reviewed during orientation and in other ways to make students and staff aware of the policy.

Horticulturalist Tim Parsons also presented a map indicating the busiest doors on campus. The idea would be to install signs at these approximately 150 entrances, estimating \$50 per sign.

The council passed the recommendation, which will be given to the President of the College Ronald D. Liebowitz, Dean of the College Katy Smith Abbott and the Commons Deans.

New Fund for Innovation

By Eliza Teach

On Monday, Mar. 2, College President Ronald D. Liebowitz announced the creation of the new Fund for Innovation in a schoolwide email. The fund, established by a group of donors looking to inspire innovative programs and initiatives throughout the college, will be accepting applications from students, faculty and staff beginning Sunday, Mar. 15.

While faculty and students have had the ability to pursue innovative ideas with the help of the presidential discretionary funds, this new Fund for Innovation will provide even more donor-endowed resources falling outside the College's operating budget. It will be up to Liebowitz and starting on July 1, President-elect Laurie Patton, to appoint faculty, staff, students and supporters from across the institution to the new Fund Advisory Committee, or FAC. The FAC will then, in turn, be responsible for considering proposals and allocating funding.

The fund stems from more than nine years of discussion, according to Liebowitz, who saw the idea taking form in an alumni speaker tour during his first year as President. Many alumni were taken by his presentation on how this new generation of students, back in 2004-2005, was very much accomplished academically but at the same time, very risk adverse.

"There was something greater about grades, and about success and about fear of failure than what I had experienced for 20 years at Middlebury as a faculty member," Liebowitz said.

These conversations led to alumni reaching out and proposing solutions. Liebowitz said: "So those conversations

led to some alums, especially one, reaching out and saying I'm on the board of a foundation which deals with innovation and maybe the way around this is to really think through how innovation occurs on campus and how students are encouraged to be creative beyond feeling safe, because sometimes when people want to do the safe thing and get the best grades and so forth, they stay away from taking risks and being creative."

Several programs grew out of a year-long alumnus-funded investigational period delving into what inspires students academically and what creativity and innovation look like in the College.

The Old Stone Mill was a product of this initiative to encourage students to pursue creative projects without the fear of grades. While this program offers mentoring support from alumni and parents, Liebowitz noted that there was not much financial support. In addition, while many programs have grown out of the Programs for Creative Innovation, such as the Ted X event and Projects for Peace, such projects have struggled with inconsistent funding.

The Fund for Innovation thus grew out of the need for available funding that falls outside of the College's operating budget, as not to appear as if the money is taking away from the core mission of the academic program.

According to Jim Ralph, the Dean of Faculty Development and Research, during a department listening tour he partook in, faculty members proposed a wide array of promising proposals that could merit funding through the Fund for Innovation. Among many examples, Ralph mentioned a proposal outlining a prison education system.

"We've heard from a number of faculty interested in developing more of a public dimension to their academic work, so have proposed developing a prison education program," said Ralph. "This might bring undergraduates together with those who are incarcerated in the Vermont penal system."

After considering proposals such as this one, Ralph and the Vice President for Academic Development, Tim Spears, hope to now determine which proposals will be good candidates for the FFI or perhaps other avenues through College Advancement.

"Each one of the proposals has been fairly bounded, and I think that's good, because it means they are of limited scope, but could very well be nice enhancements for what we do here at Middlebury College," Ralph said.

According to Liebowitz's email, the Fund for Innovation will cover proposals of any scale. Projects can have a maximum of four years of funding, dependant on a conditional renewal process. Applications will be accepted on a rolling basis with the exception of those directly related to the academic program such as proposals for new classes for credit. Such academic program proposals can be submitted Mar. 15 and Oct. 15.

"We realized what goes on outside the classroom influences what goes on inside the classroom," Liebowitz said. "Everyone should own innovation and the way to do that, in my view after being here for 31 years, and after seeing some of the challenges of trying to be innovative, you need to get everybody involved. And I think that this fund will allow those who truly want to try their hands in innovation to be supported and to involve more than the president in the decision making."

NESCAC Schools Survey Alcohol Use

By Ethan Brady

On March 1, the College notified all students that it will conduct a survey about alcohol use and drinking culture at the College in conjunction with other NESCAC institutions. The confidential NESCAC alcohol survey was first administered in Spring 2012 and was coordinated by Bowdin's Dean of the College. This year marks the second time the survey will be administered and will now be coordinated by the Dean of the College at Tufts.

The common survey aims to assess the current state of the College campus individually and in the context of its peer schools. According to an e-mail sent to all the College's students, the deans at the eleven NESCAC schools hope that the survey will allow them to develop and implement better services, programs and policies to meet their students' needs.

In Fall 2010, the College created a small task force headed by Gus Jordan, director of the Parton Center for Health and Wellness. The task force devised a Middlebury-only alcohol survey to try to identify trends and pinpoint problematic drinking behaviors in the hope of creating a healthier environment regarding drinking culture. The survey garnered a high rate of participation among students.

According to Vice President for Student Affairs and Dean of the College Katy Smith Abbott, administrators at other NESCAC schools quickly became interested in this survey. The NESCAC deans, who meet regularly several times a year, decided it would be beneficial to look at the same questions across all NESCAC institutions in order to compare data among a group of peer schools. The College survey in Fall 2010 was a basis for the first NESCAC survey, which was

administered in Spring 2012. The deans agreed to conduct the common survey every three years.

After the survey is concluded, each school can view only the data pertaining to its own students and the NESCAC averages for all schools. All data will be presented in aggregate form only. This summer, the NESCAC deans of the colleges plan to discuss what they have learned about their own institutions vis-a-vis the results of the 2012 survey.

Depending on what the data reveal, Dean Abbott suggested that she and her fellow deans may entertain a

"I am excited to gauge what students are saying on the survey vis-a-vis what we are feeling in terms of student voices on campus. From social life frustrations to concerns about the relationship between students and Public Safety, we are curious to see how these compare to the actual data that we retrieve from the survey."

KATY SMITH ABBOTT
VICE PRESIDENT FOR STUDENT AFFAIRS AND DEAN OF THE COLLEGE

conversation about NESCAC-wide policies or other initiatives to affect positive change across all institutions.

"If, for example, all eleven schools should report high levels of underage drinking among first-year students, we might ask ourselves what we want to shift," said Abbott. "Is there something not working in the way we bring first-years in, or supporting them, or making social life options available to them?"

But unsurprisingly, NESCAC-wide changes may be hard to institute.

"It is complicated in part because the culture of each institution is distinct," Abbott said. "The way each of us does

orientation, or first-year programming, or even how we organize residential life differs among our peer schools. These all play into whether an action will be feasible or impact positive change in the context of a particular campus culture and practices," she concluded.

The College also draws data from national surveys, including a survey in the Fall by the National College Health Association in which the College participated. In 2010, the task force concluded that drinking at the College occurs on campus, but at most larger institutions, drinking happens off campus, in town or at fraternities and sororities.

"When we look at national statistics, which encompass larger colleges and universities, we have to keep in mind what the culture is like specific to Middlebury," Abbott said.

"I am excited to gauge what students are saying on the survey vis-a-vis what we are feeling in terms of student voices on campus. From social life frustrations to concerns about the relationship between students and Public Safety, we

are curious to see how these compare to the actual data that we retrieve from the survey," she continued.

Abbott indicated that she is looking forward to receiving new information to work with.

"We implemented many of the recommendations from the task force in 2010—not all, but many of the 40 that were offered. Some of those have worked, and some haven't. I keep thinking what new information we might get, and how we might respond with changes and enhancements to social life that would actually make a positive difference to students," Abbott concluded.

CCI Funding

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

their interests, we also want them to really consider their choices carefully in terms of asking for this funding opportunity. We're not trying to make this process hard or formulaic, in fact we are trying to do the exact opposite."

Burns also noted that this change puts an emphasis on the crucial summer between a student's junior and senior year.

The set amount of \$2500 was reached based on data from past years and student input. "We don't want to fund as many students as possible if we can't give them adequate funding," Burns said. "We want to be able to have a sustainable funded internship program that reaches students from across as many different disciplines, years, pursuits and passions as we can."

Last year the average request for CCI-funded internships was \$2545, and the average award was \$1800. The \$2500 figure is thus a significant increase from previously assigned awards. Burns noted that this fixed amount is also in keeping with the notion of student ownership throughout this process. "It used to be that a student would do a budget and we would base the funding off of that. Although they still have to fill out a budget for students to think through their expenses, it is really up to them to decide how they can best allocate this money," she said.

According to Cheryl Lower, associate director of the CCI, this is the first year that these CCI-funded internships will cover lost wages for unpaid internships. "This is a big change from previous years," she said. "Before, you could only be covered for transportation, lodging and food expenses." Thus, even if a student only requires \$1000 to make an internship opportunity work logistically, the remaining \$1500 can be considered as lost wages for that unpaid experience.

However, there have still been student concerns that this set amount will not sufficiently cover their internship experiences. Lower said she helps advise students with these concerns to come up with other options for attaining those lost funds, both from College resources and otherwise. She noted that it is possible to combine funding opportunities at the College, such as with the grants offered by the Community Engagement Office.

Although the number of students applying for funding has steadily increased over the past few years, last year marked the first significant drop in applications. In 2011, only 63 students applied for funding. That number nearly quadrupled the following year with 220 applicants. However, while 363 students applied for funding in 2013, only 275 applied in 2014. Burns attributed this drop in applicants in part due to negative media coverage regarding exploitative unpaid student labor and increasing pressures for organizations to pay their interns.

The ratio of paid versus unpaid internships on the MOJO website has increased to nearly 70 percent paid to 30 percent unpaid from a 50-50 split in past years. Because of this previous decrease in applications, Burns does not anticipate this new change in funding policy to yield significantly lower numbers of student applicants.

CCI-awarded funding, which nears half a million dollars, draws from about twenty different private funds. While many of these funds are very broad in terms of the types of internships they will finance, others are quite restrictive in nature. For example, certain funds are oriented toward internships within the environmental, arts or journalism interest areas. However, regardless of where the individual parts of the total amount of funding money come from, students are only required to go through one application process.

Burns also emphasized the broad definition of "internship" that these funds will support. In addition to traditional internships at nonprofit organizations, private offices and government branches, the CCI will also fund self-designed projects by students.

"Middlebury is very committed to this real-world experience and applied liberal arts learning. While many of our peer institutions have these types of funding programs, many have them at a much smaller level," she said.

New Smoking Policy Suggested

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

current one," said Ben Bogin '15, Student Co-Chair of Community Council, in an email to the *Campus*.

He added: "We've recommended that faculty, student and staff members form a task force next year to look at the issue [of banning smoking]. I expect it will involve talking with [President Elect Laurie L. Patton] and a wide range of community members. Personally, I'm not sure that we will end up banning smoking in the end, but I think it's important to engage the issue."

Brady echoed Bogin's reservations. "I'm not sure I fully support it, but I think it's interesting for that to be part of the conversation. Because it hurts other people, I felt that I needed to include that clause just to have it at least be a part of the conversation," he said.

Medical Director and College Physician Dr. Mark Peluso expressed support for such a measure.

"I would be in favor of a smoking ban with certain conditions. That it was done over time, that it provided an opportunity for people who currently smoke to engage the quitting process, and that it was enforceable," Peluso said.

Parton Center for Health and Wellness is not equipped to facilitate smoking cessation with specialized services, but the nearby Porter Hospital hosts the VT Quits program, which offers in-person counseling.

Peluso also suggested looking at smoking policy through the lens of cost-cutting. An inquiry into the cost of

treating smoking-related illnesses in the employee-funded Health and Welfare Benefits Plan, where premiums paid directly subsidize medical costs, could help quantify the cost borne by faculty and staff.

"If we assume that Middlebury is following the same trends as the general adult population in New England most of our tobacco users are going to be faculty

campus in various forms, ultimately with the goal of eliminating it from campus altogether."

The downsides of a tobacco ban go beyond restricting individual liberties, as it would affect the staffing of the College's Language Schools as well. Some language school professors, who can come from countries and cultures with different norms regarding tobacco, have

threatened to not return to teach if such a policy was in place, according to Brady.

"For something that seems like an instinctual decision — that's a public health issue, we should just do that — it really takes a lot of time and coordination. I think we have the opportunity to do things when it's the right time for our campus and in a way that makes everyone feel comfortable

As of January 1, 2015 there are at least 1,514 100% smoke free campuses in the US.

1,014 are 100% tobacco-free, 587 Colleges prohibit the use of cigarettes on campus.

no Vermont Colleges or Universities are 100% tobacco free.

5 US states: Arkansas, Iowa, Illinois, Louisiana and Oklahoma require by US law that all College and University campuses be 100% smoke free, anywhere on campus, indoors and outdoors.

JULIA HATHAWAY

and staff," said Barbara McCall, director of Health and Wellness Education.

The tension between the prevailing notion that smoking tobacco is rare at the College, but that secondhand smoke poses a health risk beyond that niche, would require a nuanced solution.

McCall suggested looking to other colleges, like the smoke and tobacco-free University of Maine system, as resources to guide in successful policy change.

"This isn't a split-second decision you make and implement the next day. Most schools do a three- to five-year plan and there are phases of implementation," McCall said, "Typically plans start with a review of the current policy and work on strengthening that as a means to start restricting smoke and tobacco on

and included," McCall said.

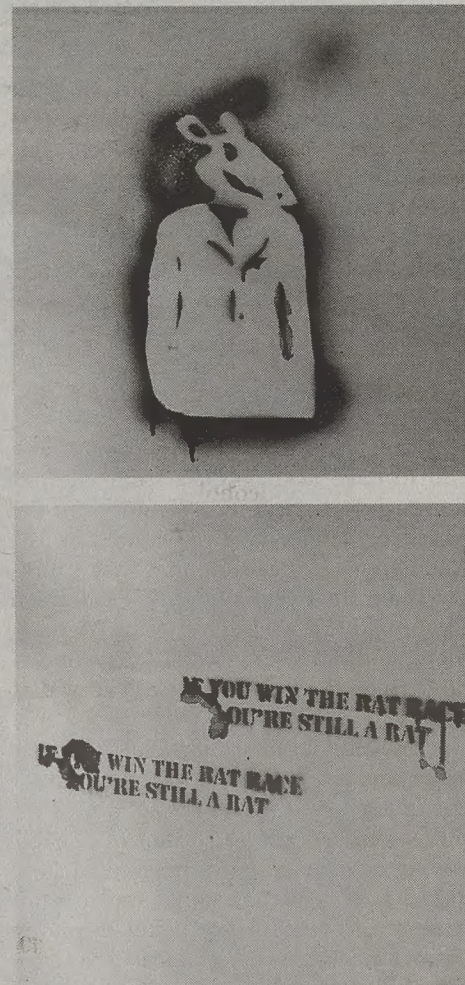
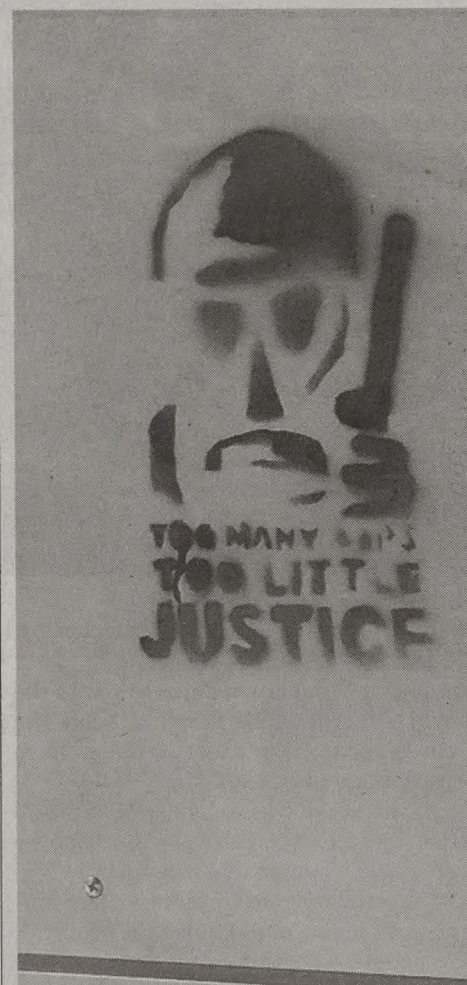
Ishan Guha '17 is skeptical of stricter enforcement of the current 25 feet rule.

"I think that would be unnecessary for a few reasons. Firstly I don't think people are smoking particularly close to entryways and two I think that it would be unnecessary policing," Guha said.

When asked about a tobacco ban, he said: "I think smoking is a choice and you're restricting free will. If people want to smoke they should be able to smoke, especially if you're going to ban them from smoking outside on a campus."

On the effects of secondhand smoke, he said: "That is a concern, but again I think we'd have to actually examine some statistics to see what the full effects would be before we make a decision."

GRAFITTI MAKES A STATEMENT



ANNE GRAY/ RACHEL FRANK

On Monday, March 9, graffiti was discovered on and in several academic buildings.

MCAB's WHAT'S HAPPENING AT MIDDLEBURY?

Free Friday Film
Into the Woods will be featured
in Dana Auditorium
FRIDAY AT 6 & 9 P.M.



Zumba

Come dance away your
Sunday blues at Wilson Hall
(formerly known as the Social
Space)
SUNDAY AT 4 P.M.

UVM Study Shows Doctors Don't Consistently Prescribe Antipsychotic Medications to Kids

By Sarah Koenigsberg

Researchers at the University of Vermont released a study investigating the use of antipsychotic medications on children in the March edition of *Pediatrics*. While the results concluded that the inappropriate use of the drugs is not a concern, about 50 percent of prescribers failed to meet best practice standards.

Amidst increasing nationwide use of such drugs by minors, lead author Dr. David Rettew and his team wished to gain understanding of what was causing the upward trend and if there is any reason for alarm. Rettew is the director of the Pediatric Psychiatry Clinic at the University of Vermont Medical Center and the Vermont Center for Children, Youth, and Families.

"Part of our concern is that these medicines may be getting pulled out too early in the treatment planning for things like oppositional behavior, ahead of things like behavioral therapy that could be tried first," Rettew said in an official press release.

To collect information, the researchers examined Medicaid claims for July to October of 2012, extracting the names of Vermont physicians who had prescribed antipsychotic medications to children and sending them mandatory surveys.

In total, 147 doctors responded, accounting for prescriptions to 647 patients. Ultimately, the team decided that the drugs were issued under the proper circumstances in 92 percent of cases.

"It was pretty clear from our data that antipsychotic medicines were only being

used once other things didn't work, or other types of treatments or other types of medications failed," Rettew said. "And I think that's really good news because it reflects the idea that doctors are not prescribing these medicines casually or in a knee-jerk way."

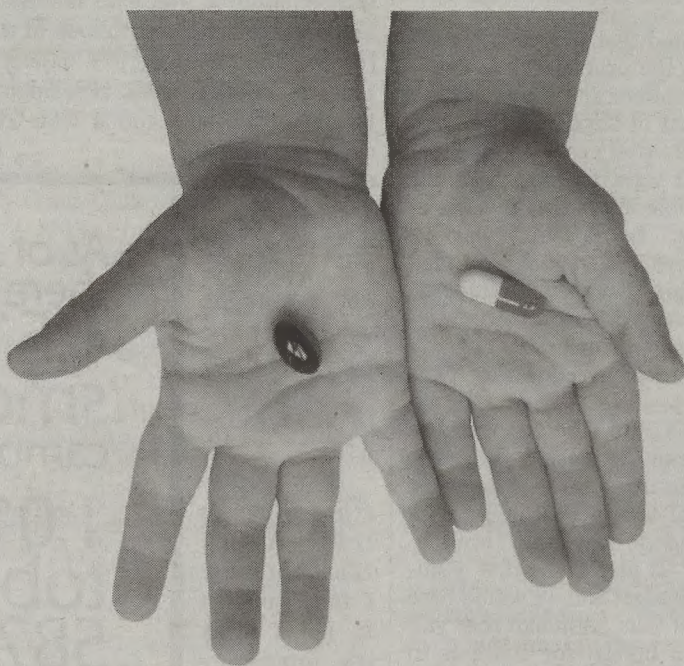
While Rettew seemed comforted by the lack of overuse, he insisted, "I don't think we in the medical community can be too excited about a best practice rate of 50 percent ... and we should be working on ways to improve that number."

The standards for best practice guidelines were taken from the American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry. The recommendations include not only prescribing medications as a last resort but also stipulations such as appropriate testing before prescription as well as follow-up, not issuing such medications to children under 5 or using multiple antipsychotic drugs at one time. The

greatest violations to best practice were due to a lack of adequate blood testing, both before and after commencement of drug use.

"The number one reason why a prescription did not follow best practice guidelines was not because it was being used inappropriately, it was because the doctors were not getting the recommended lab work that's supposed to go along with these prescriptions," Rettew said.

Such testing is important for keeping track of cholesterol and blood-glucose levels, elevations of which are common side effects when using these types of drugs. A leading reason for insufficient



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Dr. Rettew found that 50 percent of prescribers failed best practice standards.

blood testing was reportedly children's aversion to having the lab work done and undergoing the process of blood sampling. However, the researchers also feel that many physicians simply are not aware of the guidelines.

The report includes recommendations for doctors in order to mitigate poor performance on best practices. Namely, the authors tout the incorporation of electronic medical records that use software capable of alerting doctors when tests should be done. Additionally, the team is pushing for the better training of doctors that may work with children taking these drugs, even if the doctors are not the ones to prescribe them. The team is also looking for better access to therapy for children in Vermont and improved information sharing between centers to ensure consideration of patient history.

Interestingly, the rates of pediatric patients on antipsychotic medications in Vermont has fallen in recent years, by 45 percent for children ages 6 to 12 and 27 percent for ages 13-17. This contrasts with national statistics in previous years from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, which report that usage increased by 62 percent for children on Medicaid between 2002 and 2007.

The aim of Rettew and his nine co-authors was not to undermine the validity of such drugs. "I'm not anti-antipsychotics; I just want to make sure they're used very carefully," Rettew said. "These findings could help us design a game plan for measures to improve best-practice prescribing." He admitted that while "there are risks associated with using these medicines ... I think they've saved lives."

Vermont Chili Festival Set for March 14

By Alessandria Schumacher

Has this warm, sunny weather got you itching to get out of the library and walk around town, even though it's not quite warm enough for ice cream and popsicles? How about a warm bowl of chili - or, better yet, chili samples from over 40 restaurants, groups and clubs in the area? It sounds like the 7th Annual Vermont Chili Festival is the place for you!

Luckily, you will not have to travel far for this monumental Vermont event.



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Gov. Shumlin enjoys Chili Fest 2014.

Chili Fest will be happening this Saturday, March 14 from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. in downtown Middlebury.

At least 5000 people will fill the streets of Middlebury to participate in this annual event. Furthermore, this year, Chili Fest made it onto the Vermont Chamber of Commerce's "Top 10 Winter Events List." Fortunately, this momentous event and unlimited chili is not too pricey. Tickets are \$5 in advance and \$7 at the door. Proceeds from this event go to various charities, including the Better Middlebury Partnership and the Vermont Food Bank.

The purchase of one ticket allows you to have free samples from all vendors who participate. Vendors in the past have included groups such as the Middlebury College Men's Cross Country Team (last year's winner), American Flatbread, the Middlebury Fire Department, and the Middlebury College Snowbowl (like the Snowbowl Chili served at Proctor).

The chili from groups such as these, and many more, will be ranked by a panel of judges and first, second, and third place winners will be chosen in the following categories: beef, veggie, chicken, game, pork, "kitchen sink," and overall winner. Chili eaters (you could be among them!) also have the chance to vote on the chili that will receive the "People's Choice" award. Upon arriving, everyone



COURTESY OF EXPERIENCEMIDDLEBURY.COM

Middlebury College Students, including local editor Harry Cramer '16.5, enjoy chili.

receives several poker chips to put in the buckets by the chilis they like best. The chili receiving the most popular votes wins People's Choice.

Even if you do not like chili, it is still great to enjoy the festival's atmosphere and entertainment. In the past, there have been dance performances, live music, flash mobs, and ample opportunities for people watching, and there is sure to be just as much entertainment, if not more, this year.

Whether you choose to eat chili, vote on your favorite sample, or just come for the celebration, Chili Fest promises to be an excellent way to spend your Saturday afternoon. And just think, maybe your vote could be the one to differentiate that winning chili from all the rest.

For more information, check out the 2015 Vermont Chili Festival facebook page / event, go to experiencemiddlebury.com or email vermontchilifest@gmail.com.

Shumlin's Controversial Budget Plans Cuts Prison Education

By Ella Marks

Vermont Governor Peter Shumlin recently proposed cuts in the prison education system that total \$1.7 million. These cuts affect the budget of the Community High School of Vermont, an institution that provides high school courses to people in the Vermont prison system.

The Community High School of Vermont does more than provide education to inmates. It also provides job training which is invaluable for inmates who may otherwise struggle to find jobs when released.

Enhancing employment opportunities for inmates is crucial because studies have shown that finding and maintaining employment can reduce former prisoners' chances of returning to prison.

The program stands now at 17 prison and parole campuses throughout Vermont, but cuts will mean that this number will be diminished to only four prisons in the state.

The number of awarded diplomas has been decreasing over time. In 2007, 148 diplomas were awarded but in 2014, only 41 diplomas were issued by the Community High School of Vermont.

Advocates for the Community High School of Vermont claim that the decreasing numbers of graduates are not a cause for cutting parts of the program. People who support the program point out that students involved earn more than just diplomas.

Sarah Flynn, a member of the school's advisory board, told the *Burlington Free Press*, "The school also provides remedial services for inmates who've graduated in the public school system but have startling academic lacks and deficiencies."

The number of diplomas has dropped, but so has the number of inmates under 23 years old, the oldest age the department is required to provide education for inmates.

Through Community High School of Vermont, students can also learn trade certificates and receive specialized job training.

Governor Shumlin points to the decreasing number of students earning diplomas from the program as a sign that it is becoming more and more ineffective. In an email statement from the governor's office to *VT Digger*, the office wrote: "The numbers speak for themselves. [...] That is clearly not an efficient use of state resources." They go on to say that the budget year is "tough"

and suggest that they are open to other ideas that will put aside the same amount of money.

For Community High School of Vermont, what these cuts will ultimately mean is the reduction of 25 staff positions. Currently, the High School has over 100 employees including full-time employees, teachers, and office staff.

Additionally, the School will provide services at a reduced number of



COURTESY OF VERMONT DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS
St. Johnsbury Northeast Correctional Complex will continue to receive funding.

locations. Prisons in South Burlington, Newport, St. Albans and Springfield will continue to offer the education program while services will stop in correctional centers in Rutland, St. Johnsbury, Windsor and all community field sites.

The cuts of the Community High School's budget come from a portion of Shumlin's proposal to address more opportunities for government efficiency. The \$1.7 million prison education cut is part of more than \$15 million in cuts proposed by Shumlin.

Proponents of the Community High School of Vermont warned the *Burlington Free Press* that these cuts would "essentially destroy the school as we know it." They distinguish the Community High School of Vermont from other prison education programs, criticizing the other programs for a "who cares, throw a workbook at them" approach.

Along with other cuts, Shumlin requested savings of \$9 million in personnel costs and the reduction of funding for 11 state employee positions.

In his speech, Shumlin said, "All of these cuts, and others detailed in the budget, have been proposed because I believe we can offer them while still providing core state services. But let me be clear - they are real; I know each matters deeply; and they are tough."

"All of these cuts, and others detailed in the budget, have been proposed because I believe we can offer them while still providing core state services. But let me be clear - they are real; I know each matters deeply; and they are tough."

PETER SHUMLIN

GOVERNOR OF VERMONT

LOCAL LOWDOWN

12

Salisbury Rabies Clinic

Nobody wants their pets to fall victim to rabies. In light of that, the Salisbury town office is holding a rabies clinic. Shots are \$12 per animal. Dogs in Salisbury have to be licensed by April 1 and must have a current rabies certificate to do so. Dan Vatnick '15 will host a workshop on financial security of pets after the clinic.

MAR. 12, 6:15 PM - 7:30 PM

Lincoln Tween Movie

If you're 10 years old (or older!) and want to watch "Stardust" (PG-13) then join local farmer John Louie at the Lincoln Library on Friday with your PJs! *Stardust* is a movie based on the book by Neil Gaiman. It involves a boy chasing down a falling star to win the heart of a girl he loves, only to fall in love with the star who happens to be a girl. It's fiction. There are pirates. Refreshments will be served! For more information call (802)-453-2665.

MAR. 13, 4:00 PM

Vermont Chili Festival in Middlebury

Is there anything better than pancakes? Chili! If you've finally gotten your fill of pancake breakfasts, head on over to the seventh annual Chili Fest in downtown Middlebury! This will be the biggest celebration of chili in Vermont all year. There will be live music in the afternoon from *The Grift*. There is also a beverage tent for those 21+! Chili fest is welcome to all ages. Tickets for adults are \$5 in advance and \$7 at the door. Children under 8 are free!

MAR. 14, 1:00 PM - 4:00 PM

Cornwall Pancake Breakfast

If chili isn't really your thing, we've still got you covered. The Cornwall Elementary School is having a fundraiser to support ongoing farm-to-school activities such as their school garden, compost and field trips. Adults are \$10, kids \$5. For more information call (802)-462-2463.

MAR. 14, 7:00 AM - 11:00 AM

Brandon Auditions

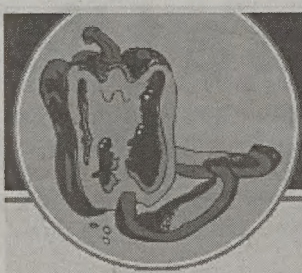
If you're an actor/actress or if you think that you could maybe be an actor/actress if given the chance, you may want to head on over to the Brandon Senior Center on Route 73. Actors 16 and older are invited to try out for a role in the upcoming live radio show with the Brandon Town Players. The show will be performed in May, and is a comedy and a mystery. Audition material will be provided. For more information call (802)-247-6720.

MAR. 15, 3:00 PM

Middlebury St Patrick's Day Celebration

This is a free event held in Wilson Hall in the McCullough Social Space. Timothy Cummings and guests will be giving a participatory dance/concert that highlights the culture and traditions of Ireland and Appalachia. There will be student guests, along with Pete Sutherland, Dominique Dodge, Mary Wesley and Caleb Elder playing. For more information call (802)-443-3168.

MAR. 15, 4:00 PM



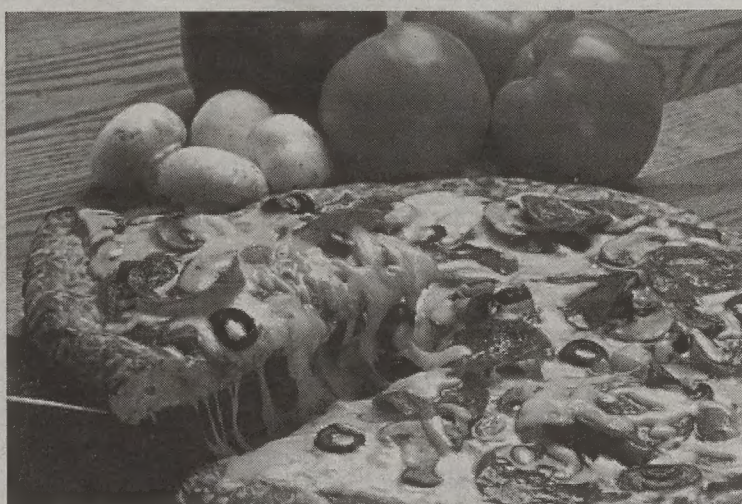
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We've been here in Middlebury since 1982 specializing in mouth-watering food. Our goal has always been to offer a fresh, quality, price sensitive meal to the whole family whether you dine in or take out. And it's not just pizza: try our pasta, nachos, wings, and calzones!



OPINIONS

The Middlebury Campus

Revise, Don't Reject, the Honor Code

Over the past few years, many students and faculty have expressed their frustration over the efficacy – or lack thereof – of Middlebury College's flagship moral doctrine, the Honor Code. Cheating has thrived while students' willingness to report one another for such offenses seems rarer and rarer. The Honor Code needs fixing, and many in the College community know and want it to happen.

The Middlebury Campus

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On Sunday, the SGA passed a bill to move ahead on amending the Honor Code's constitution to include a biennial referendum on the system. The *Campus* commends the SGA for taking initiative to create a more serious dialogue of change. We believe however, that these referenda might do more to harm than to help the Middlebury Honor Code.

According to Bill S2015-SB2, starting in 2016 the student body will participate in a referendum every other spring that will include three options to determine the Honor Code's fate: maintain, revise or eliminate it. Nothing would change under the first option. The second, however, would yield a two-week revising period in which all students could participate; at the end of this period, a new Honor Code would be voted on by the Senate and Faculty Council. The third option would suspend the Code completely, so that it would no longer apply to any student in or outside of any classroom on this campus.

This last option has many of us at the *Campus* concerned. Though it is highly unlikely to occur, the possibility that students would be able to eliminate the Honor Code is enough to make us take a second look at the referendum and examine the value of including this option.

Not only would the choice to remove the Honor Code immediately destroy the trust between students and professors – the same trust that awards students the privilege of take-home or self-scheduled exams, might we add – but terminating the Honor Code even once might also prevent us from ever earning back that trust. Furthermore, given that the referenda will occur on a biennial basis, half the student body will have never experienced an honor code by the time the following referendum comes around. Without a grounded understanding of the Honor Code's benefits, future students might not see the same value in it that those who have experienced it do, making its revival unlikely.

That being said, even students currently under the Honor Code

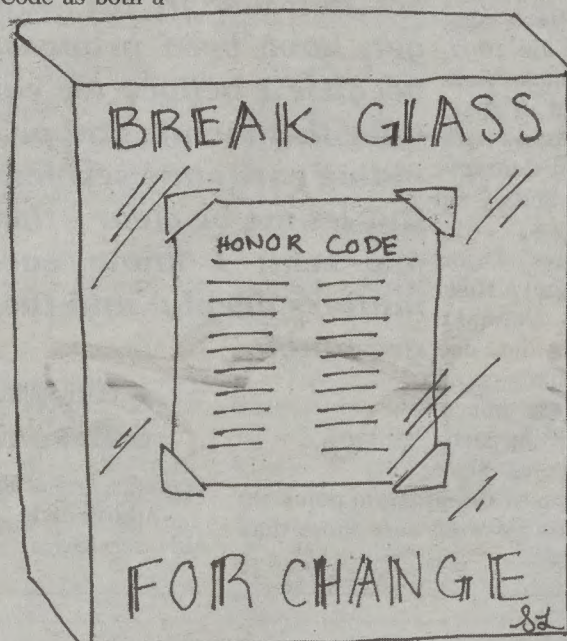
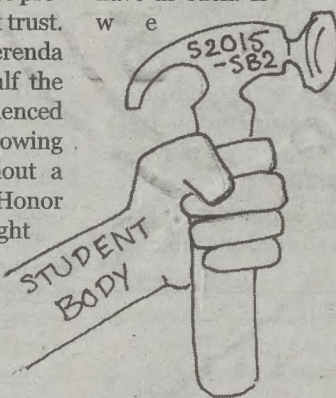
do not unanimously support it; there are therefore changes to be made. Indeed, disregard for the Honor Code has grown so egregious that last spring, the Economics department suspended it on exams in the major's core courses so that professors could proctor them and provide a more aggressive line of defense against cheating.

The student body is aware of these holes in the Code's application. In a survey conducted by the SGA in January, some 33 percent of students supported the Code in principle but believed its practice needs reform, while nearly 60 percent supported it as is. Given that many students support the Code, at least in principle, opening up the possibility of destructive reform to the entire student body on a biennial basis might be dangerous to the integrity of the Code.

There are some, however, who believe that it is not the Honor Code that has failed us, but it is we who have failed the Honor Code. Perhaps if the student body were to vote to dissolve it, we would be forced to confront the idea that we are not honorable enough to merit this code. We trumpet the Honor Code as both a triumph of moral intelligence and, thereby, a reflection of our own, yet too many of us shirk the responsibilities that it necessitates. It is a privilege to be treated as men and women of integrity, but it is our duty to behave as such. If we

abandon the latter, the former goes with it.

Many of the top colleges in the United States boast honor codes. Currently, we are among them, but this bill could change that. While the bill gives students the right to affect what is perhaps the most important policy at our school on a regular basis, an empowerment that the *Campus* supports, the bill also poses a risk – losing the Honor Code – that does not exceed the reward of gaining the referendum. While we appreciate the opportunity the referendum presents, we fear the consequences of being able to choose the last option. We would like to encourage students to focus on a combination of the first and second options instead. It would be naive to suggest continuing with the Code as is after acknowledging the aforementioned problems in its application, but it is realistic and effective for Middlebury to amend the Code. Let's revise, not reject, our school's most important academic life policy to make sure that its practice achieves the goal of academic integrity.



SARAH LAKE

What's More Important Than a Life?

Mesopotamia was the birthplace of civilization. Its fertile lands allowed for the first instances of agriculture and organized society. From between the rivers Euphrates and Tigris emerged the first empires. From within that crescent of land came the first accounts of writing and

READER OP-ED

Jack George '16 is from London, U.K.

the rest, as they say, is history.

The Islamic State's indisputably effective media arm wielded yet another masterstroke by announcing that it had bulldozed the ancient Assyrian archeological site at Nimrud, Iraq. Though burning people in cages, selling women and children as sex slaves, throwing gays off buildings and countless beheadings had rightly outraged many the world over, these recent attacks on the very foundations of human civilization struck a whole new nerve.

But the question is whether it is any worse. Does reconfiguring stone, when imbued with cultural connotations trump exterminating a living person? The tangible human abuses carried out by the group have become so commonplace that each new beheading loses relative shock-value. They tried doing several (21) at once in Libya, but this only furthered the impression that banality had attached itself to barbarity. The blatant destruction of cultural artifacts is just the latest way of them grabbing our attention, and it worked.

UNESCO declared it a war crime and public figures declared their outrage but the IS has been committing war crimes on a daily basis. Further, the great stone edifices at Nimrud and other places, as beautiful and important as they were, were doubtlessly constructed under slave-labor and a monstrously oppressive regime, the likes of which the IS would love to emulate.

The Islamic State's espoused ideology would suggest that they were merely eradicating false idols, cleansing their newly appropriated lands of any pre-Mohammedan religion. But it would take a special sort of fool to sincerely believe that the militants think that Iraqis were still going around worshipping winged bulls with human faces. The Islamic State may be

driven by heinous Wahhabi fundamentalism but their modus operandi is terrorist, and terror is employed in order to provoke. It is unlikely that anything they do will force President Obama's hand into declaring total war but actions like these can nonetheless provoke serious questions for us in the West, the crimes' intended audience.

We live in a world where horror is commonplace if not immediate. Our interconnected global space hosts countless abuses each day. Our media and our choice of media select which atrocities we perceive as being especially awful. The destruction of artifacts, culture and history strikes us as particularly bad, not necessarily because it is worse, but simply because it is rarer. We have been over-saturated with violence to the point where the sight of broken stones hurts more than that of broken bones.

I heard a story once from a man, an actor, who had run away from the Ayatollah's regime in Iran. He said how he had a come across a man cleaning a bathroom once who seemed especially jovial. The actor was having a rough day and asked the man to what he owed his happiness. The man explained how he had a successful business that left him feeling unsatisfied. So one day, he quit his job and swore to never listen or watch the news ever again. And thus, he found joy.

Absolute denial might not be the best way forward but rather one should be aware that when dealing with a group like the IS, outrage begets horror. Reaction only fuels their fire further. Their media output is astonishingly sophisticated and ruthlessly exploits our own and the media's complicity in the spread of their barbarity.

Increasingly, western powers seem unable to articulate what it is that we believe in. We know what it is that we dislike, yet we fail to defeat it. Progress cannot solely be negative. We need to believe in something. Perhaps that something would be the defense of some conception of civilization, or perhaps it would simply be the integrity of individual persons. The question asked in the title is one for each of us to ponder. Its answer might indeed frame the intellectual standpoint of our age.

On the Path to Transhumanism

ECHOES

Alex Newhouse '17 is from Stonington, Colo.

Every day we accelerate toward longer life, healthier life, fewer diseases, and better recovery from those diseases we can't cure. Every single

day our technology progresses, building on itself in all sorts of ways that we can't imagine yet, slowly but steadily directing us toward an ultimate end point. Chances are, we will at some time in the future reach that point.

Among academics and enthusiasts studying the future, this point is referred to as a singularity. It is fully within the realm of possibility that within the not-too-distant future, we will cease to be affected by the forces of time or disease, and instead we can constantly revive our bodies indefinitely. Either by organ generation, artificial augmentation, or full mental transplantation, we might be able to transcend the natural state of human existence.

This is the goal of the transhumanism movement. And what an absolutely unbelievable achievement it would be! The goal of transhumanism

plays into that most base of human instincts, the drive to survive. The conquest of death would fully absolve us of that innate, extremely powerful and primal fear of destruction. Such an achievement would grant the gift that countless religions have claimed to give, eternal life.

But we aren't just animals. We aren't just slaves to our innate desires. We have a huge, complicated, diverse structure of more high-level goals and dreams created by our mind. We have deep, troubling conflicts within ourselves not about the fact of survival, but rather about the spirit of living—we are the only living creatures to experience existential crises and to wonder about our place in the universe. Innumerable books have tackled how to live meaningfully and to extract every ounce of happiness and satisfaction out of the life we've been given. We know no other way to live, than to live respecting the inherent limits of

our lives. To take down those limits would be to undermine the very fabric of our society and to throw into turmoil the decisions that we make every day. What does it mean to lead a "meaningful" life when that life is endless? How do you approach your career when you'll be working for 400 years, instead of 40? How do you entertain yourself when you have more than enough time to do anything you've ever wanted, and to make the money to enable yourself to do all those things?

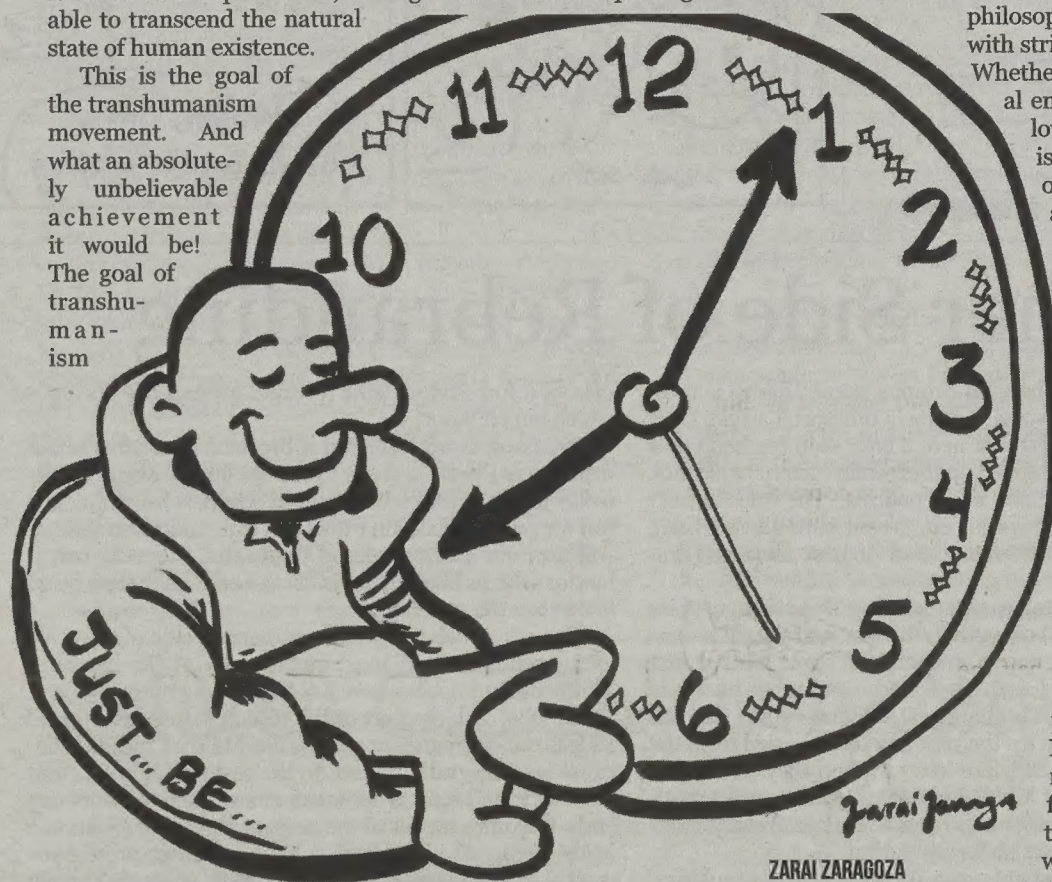
Transhumanism sounds ridiculous on face value, but the fact of the matter is, technology is creeping toward this point. It's not too early to start really considering what will happen when our elders consist not of 80 and 90 year olds, but of bi- and tri-centenarians. And it's never too early to start wondering if our currently accepted way of living needs a new coat of paint, or even an entirely new foundation. The pervading life philosophies all have something to do with striving to reach some greater goal.

Whether that be happiness, joy, spiritual enlightenment, mental liberation, love, or anything else, the focus is almost always on the necessity of a journey toward some sort of awakening. We all have to strive for something. And even if the focus isn't on the destination, import still weighs on the journey. After all, the oft-quoted statements does suggest that "it's the journey, and not the destination, that matters." This gets at a crucial element of truth: we must recognize the value in the present, in our current state of affairs, rather than always look down the road to our goals.

But the problem with this, and the reason why we often fear the transhumanist singularity, is that even this suggestion puts undue focus on the motion. No one ever tells us that's okay to not even go on the journey in the first place. We rarely, if ever, get the acknowledgement that where we are, right this instant, without

any regard to future goals or moving towards anything, is good and worthwhile for its own sake. We are uncomfortable with the notion of doing nothing. The idea of being, in a sense, sedentary—not physically, but rather mentally and emotionally—never receives its deserved consideration. There is something so beautiful and transcendental about the art of not moving. It represents contentment. Too often we forget to find and acknowledge when we are content. Too often we preclude ourselves from ever even feeling that emotion at all. To use an analogy: hiking is one of my favorite activities because it affords me breathtaking views and a rejuvenating exposure to nature, but I have found more joy and more peace during days when I allow myself to simply sit in a chair in nature, with no destination or even motion. I firmly believe that the ability to metaphorically sit motionless and be content is conducive to greater happiness and greater satisfaction with all of life. And life brings us countless moments for us to forget the goal and forget the motion and simply be. It takes an effort to pull the mind back down to the lowest level, to focus on the immediate and not the far-off, and to break day down into each individual moment, instead of allowing it to flow together and escape.

This is how we solve those moral quandaries of transhumanism. This is how we approach a world in which we live longer and healthier lives and where the specter of meaninglessness grows. It takes a refocusing of life onto what it means to be during each second, rather than what it means to strive toward something. But this doesn't have to wait for scientists to develop the technology for us to live indefinitely. These existential problems are not unique to transhumanism, but are simply scaled up to fit the longer time frame. We face these issues every day. But we solve the issues of boredom and aimlessness by acknowledging the fact that we don't have to aim anywhere. We don't even have to move anywhere. We can just be present, comfortable in our situation, content with the world we make for ourselves.



ZARAI ZARAGOZA

A Policy We Can Agree On

SWING VOTE

Phil Hoxie '17.5 is from Orinda, Calif.

What if I told you that there was a solution to a major policy issue facing our nation today that President Obama (D) and Ways and Means Chairman Paul Ryan (R-WI) agreed on? Would you believe me? Well, there is. Both President Obama and Congressman Ryan agree that expanding the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) could lift millions of Americans out of poverty.

The EITC is a form of wage subsidy that takes into account a family's income and number of dependents in order to calculate the amount of support the family will receive from the government. This is similar to a negative income tax (an idea proposed by President Nixon). The difference is that the EITC has a certain threshold for work to be eligible for the subsidy. Many economists credit the EITC for a substantial portion of the falling poverty rates and increased employment numbers of the 1990s.

The basic philosophical idea behind the EITC is that work should pay. Economically, the EITC is designed to impact a worker's (or potential worker's) choice between labor and leisure. It does this by raising the relative cost of leisure (wages lost by not working), which will in turn cause workers to demand less leisure. In economics, this is described as the "substitution effect"; one commodity, leisure, is being substituted for another, labor, due to a change in prices.

Some who are reading this might say, "But wasn't this guy against the minimum wage, which also acts as a wage increase and could have the same effect?"

There are several key differences between the minimum wage and the EITC. As I have explained in previous columns, the minimum wage acts as a price floor, and comes with a conservatively estimated 500,000 plus lost jobs (Congressional Budget Office). Moreover, of the aggregate increase in earnings taken home from the minimum wage hike, Michael Strain of the American Enterprise Institute calculated that only

19% of those earnings would go to households below the poverty line. The EITC is much more targeted, and despite IRS flukes, the vast majority of increased earnings from the EITC have gone to the families that need them the most. The IRS in 2009 estimated that the EITC lifted seven million Americans out of poverty. Even so, it is not perfect. The program gives additional help to families with dependents, which is a good thing. However, the program needs to be expanded to give more benefits to all workers.

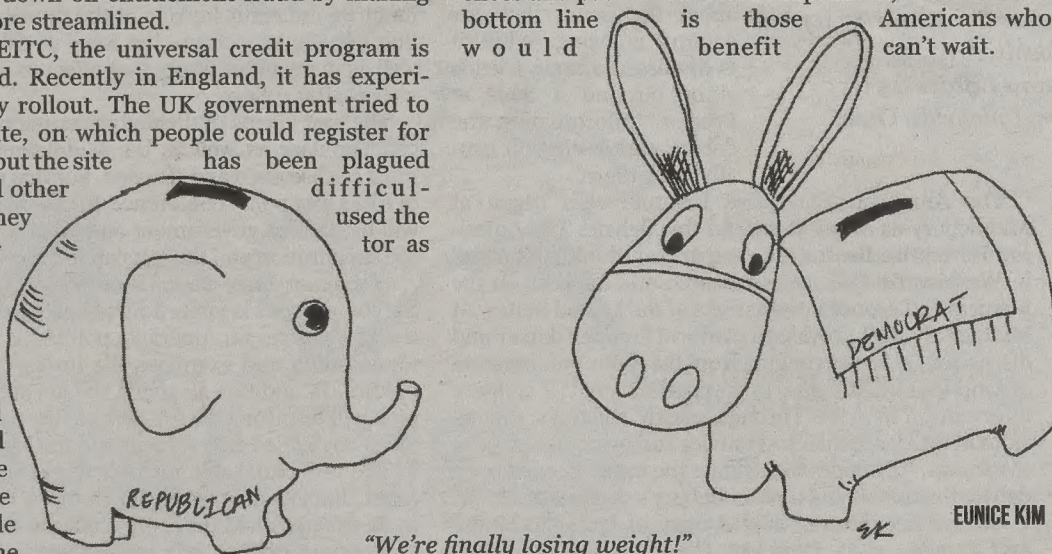
Another interesting idea that should be looked at came from the UK Conservative Party, and has been adapted by Congressman Ryan. The idea is to combine some of the almost one hundred anti-poverty programs into one "universal credit". The idea is rather simple – remove some of the hoops to jump through so people get the entitlements they are, well, entitled to. This idea would provide the same benefits at a lower price tag, mainly by decreasing administration costs. Rep. Ryan goes on to argue that the program could also cut down on entitlement fraud by making the process more streamlined.

Unlike the EITC, the universal credit program is rather untested. Recently in England, it has experienced a bumpy rollout. The UK government tried to set up a website, on which people could register for their benefits, but the site has been plagued by glitches and other difficulties (maybe they same contractor Healthcare.gov?). If those hurdles could be cleared, I think that the universal credit could really save the taxpayers some money while providing the

same benefits to those who need them.

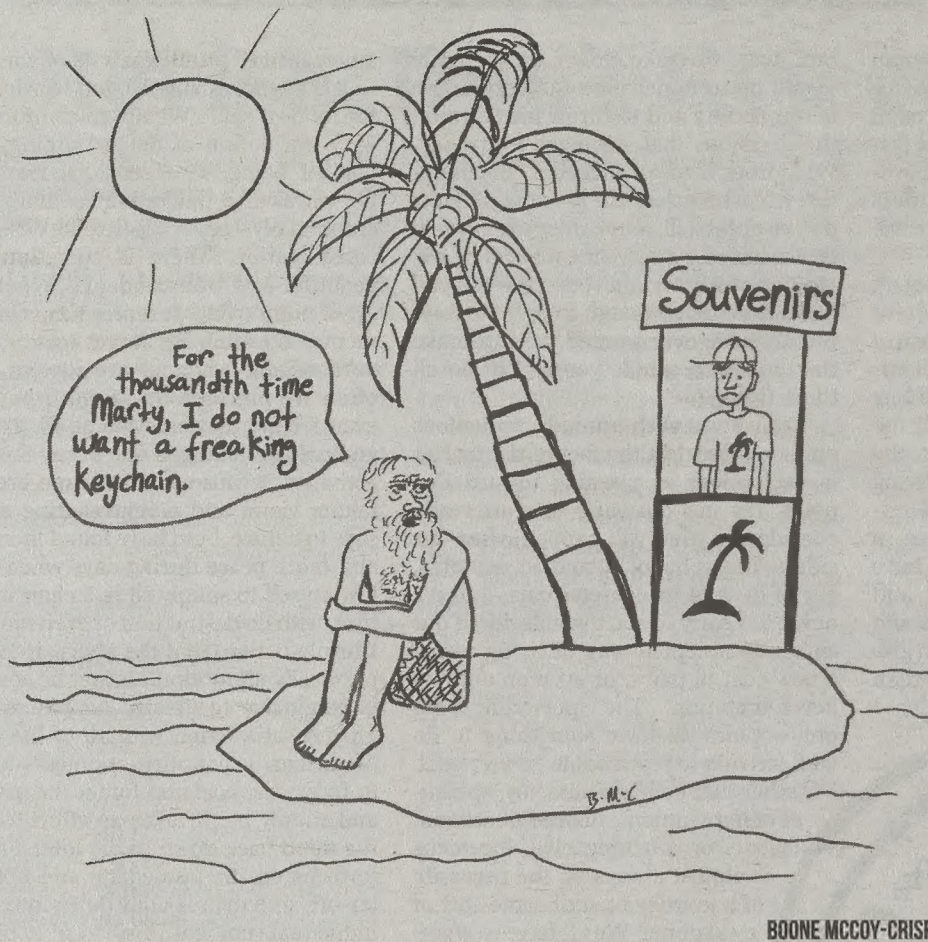
In any case, I think that expanding the EITC as well as creating the universal credit are issues that are politically feasible with the 114th Congress and President Obama. I have said it before, and I will say it again; Republicans need to legislate in a way that materially improves people's lives. There is nothing that would be more devastating to the GOP in 2016 than two years of Republican control with nothing to show for it.

That means they will need to support legislation that can garnish 60 votes for cloture in the Senate, and will be signed by President Obama. However, the fight may not be over the merits of these two programs, but rather over how to make them deficit neutral. The universal credit, if scored favorably, could pick up some of that slack for expanding the EITC; however the rest of the offsetting revenue or spending decreases will need to come from somewhere. I hope that the two parties will work to reconcile these differences and pass an EITC expansion, because the bottom line is those Americans who would benefit can't wait.



"We're finally losing weight!"

Campus Cartoons



BOONE MCCOY-CRISP

College for Cats by Emily Cox



PubSafe: The Other Side of Rebranding

READER OP-ED

Alex Epstein '17.5 is
from Ridgewood, N.J.

that we got was the *Campus* publishing a front-page pie chart showing how a large majority of students opposed the new logo.

However, Middlebury's logo is only a very small piece of the much larger rebranding pie. Our school is about to welcome a new president, we have significant turnover in the administration, we just finished an addition to our athletics center; and we are expanding our language program and our programs in California into online classrooms. Middlebury has realized that if we want to compete with schools like Williams, Amherst, and others, we must embrace growth and change.

Growth, change and rebranding are excellent buzzwords, but in reality, they don't mean much on their own. The rebranding-type changes Middlebury is undergoing are largely to boost our school's reputation and prestige – in the rankings, amongst high school students and amongst the employers who go on to hire our graduates. All of this is, in concept, a great thing. Our degrees that we earn here are expensive. Even for those on financial aid, going to Middlebury represents a huge investment of time, energy and money, all to earn a diploma. The higher the opinions of our school, the more valuable that diploma will be to us in the future – hypothetically.

The problem I have with this is that it seems like Middlebury is doing the right thing with one hand, and shooting itself in the foot with the other. While to the outside world, it may appear as though Middlebury is chang-

ing for the better, here on campus, some change is most definitely for the worse – namely our social scene. Over the course of my first year here, I have seen firsthand how Public Safety has stepped up their enforcement of alcohol, marijuana, parking and other policies. The rules haven't changed much, (except for our recent hard alcohol ban), but the rigor of enforcement seems to have increased dramatically.

The party scene on campus is dying. By and large, every week seems more boring than the last, and the difference between the party scene now and the scene when I first arrived is night and day. Upperclassmen friends have told me that this trend is nothing new – it's something that has been going on here for the past few years. Aside from the fact that my weekends are less fun than they potentially could be, I fear that Middlebury, in the process of rebranding, is turning its back on its roots, and as such counteracting its efforts to garnish its reputation.

Let me explain what I mean. In regards to our rankings, which have a huge impact on how our school is regarded as a whole, one of the most important factors, in addition to acceptance rate, is yield rate – or what percentage of accepted students actually decide to enroll. When applying to a school, but even more so when actually deciding to attend a school, one of students' most important deciding factors is if they like it. Does it seem like a place where they want to spend the next 4 years of their life?

In Middlebury's case, our school has long been advertised as a "work hard play hard" school. Many students, myself included, came here after being sold on that idea by parents, parents' friends, college counselors and countless other adult sources. In high school I personally saw people choose not to apply to schools like University of Chicago and Carnegie Mellon and instead look toward schools like Duke and Northwestern (or in my case, Middlebury) because we were told that the former were for people whose

idea of a fun Friday night revolved around the library – which ours did not.

The issue is not that I'm a bro who just cares about drinking – I've been there to see the library close on Saturday nights before – but that our school is becoming less fun for people who don't find that fun, and given time, it will hurt our acceptance and yield rates, the same way it has for schools like MIT and Chicago relative to their peers like Princeton and Yale.

The other, debatably more important side of the issue is our reputation amongst employers. At the moment, Middlebury punches above its weight in recruiting for top-notch jobs. A large part of the reason firms prefer Midd Kids to our colleagues at schools like MIT or Chicago is because we "integrate" better. In the real world, in DC, and New York, and most other major cities, when the work day ends, the office moves to the bars, or clubs or social scene in the area. At a law firm, a bank, or other prestigious workplaces, your performance outside of work socially and amongst your colleagues is almost, if not equally, as important to your performance in the office.

While Middlebury's academic rigor is excellent preparation for a real-life workload, a college education is about more than just academics. One of our school's edges over our competitors is that we have long been known for our education outside of the classroom – in Atwater, Tavern and the like – which has historically prepared our graduates for social life after leaving the office. However, from what I saw of DC's social scene as a political intern last summer, Middlebury no longer provides an adequate education in how to go out on a Saturday night. It is a question of when, and not if, the recruiters who hire our students for the prestigious jobs that form one of the cornerstones of our school's reputation figure that out, and when they do, no one, students or administrators, will like the result.

AEI: A Platform For Political Discussion

What will our government do going forward? This issue serves as more than mere content for nightly news shows. It is on the minds of students at Middlebury who want to see something done about the issues that our country is facing. While it is discussed among friends sitting around a table at Proctor, unfortunately, the debate and discussion usually stops there.

READER OP-ED

Alexander Khan '17 is from
Phoenix, Ariz.
Jenna Liffitts '15 is
from Unionville, Conn.

The American Enterprise Institute club began at Middlebury as a way to extend this debate. The American Enterprise Institute, a nonpartisan think tank based in Washington D.C., does research and analysis on the political and economic situations of the United States. At Middlebury, AEI provides a platform for open debate and discussion on issues ranging from the economic situation of America's middle class to the possibility of U.S. military intervention in Syria. Through weekly meetings, discussions of articles, books and movies and bringing speakers to campus, AEI hopes to facilitate the much-needed open debate that is missing on Middlebury's campus.

Today, Republicans hold control of both the House and Senate, while President Obama is in the White

House. As politically responsible citizens, we are driven to ask – how will our government function under these conditions? A divided government will not only affect what bills are passed, but also what bills are brought to the floor. When looking at the issue of divided government we are really looking at the future of the immigration debate, tax reform, the issue of climate change, as well as many other issues that affect us in the present as well as after college.

The vast effects of divided government on the American populace as well as the Middlebury student body must be discussed and debated. For this reason, the topic of AEI's first policy conference, to take place on March 14, will be divided government and what it means for both the constitution and the legislative process.

Professor Shep Melnick of Boston College will give the conference's keynote address. Melnick, who currently teaches courses on American politics, is a scholar of the Constitution and examines the intersection of law and politics. In addition to giving the keynote address, Melnick will be sitting on the first of two panels, which will focus on divided government and the legislative process.

The first panel also features former governor of Vermont, Jim Douglas. Governor Douglas, now an Executive in Residence at Middlebury College, started his career in Vermont politics as a representative in the Vermont

House of Representatives. He has also served as Secretary of State, State Treasurer and Governor of Vermont. Professor of Political Science Matt Dickinson and Chair of the Political Science department and Professor of Political Science Bert Johnson will also be sitting on the first panel.

The subject of the second panel will be the legislative agenda of the 114th Congress. This panel features Governor Douglas, Melnick, Assistant Professor of Political Science Adam Dean and Stan Veuger, currently a resident scholar at the American Enterprise Institute. Veuger's research focuses on political economy. He is also a frequent contributor to *The Hill* and the *U.S. News and World Report* among other publications, and writes on a range of topics including health and tax policy.

AEI's policy conference will begin at 11:00 a.m. this Saturday, March 14 in Wilson Hall (formerly the McCullough Social Space). It is open to the public and is intended to serve as a platform for debate and discussion on a wide variety of issues that affect America in the present and future. Whether you are interested in politics and economics, or you simply want to learn more about an issue, this conference will be the first step towards sparking a larger conversation about the future of America at Middlebury.

What is Canadian Healthcare?

READER OP-ED

Danny Zhang '15 is from Toronto, Canada.

Last week, the Supreme Court of the United States heard oral arguments for *King v. Burwell*, the second major legal challenge in four years to the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, better known as Obamacare. Regardless of what the justices decide on the case, the Supreme Court's re-examination of President Obama's signature legislative achievement has put the issue of health care reform front and center in the political arena yet again.

As a Canadian, following the debate on health care reform that President Obama began in 2009, which has subsequently continued as Obamacare's provisions gradually came into effect, has given me fascinating insights into the political system and political culture of your country.

During this debate, politicians and pundits, both for and against Obamacare, have often used the Canadian health care system as an example to advance their argument. However, many of their examples of how well or how badly our health-care system works are misconceptions or exaggerations at best and simply downright false at worst. I'd like to clarify and explain exactly how our health-care system functions.

For starters, the Canadian health care system is a universal single-payer system in which the government pays for basic medically necessary services for all citizens and permanent residents. However, it is not quite the kind of "socialized medicine" as many Americans believe it to be.

Although its framework was initially designed by the federal government, Canadian Medicare is administered and partly funded through taxation by each separate province, our equivalence of your states. These provincial programs must meet a set of federal standards mandated by the Canada Health Act of 1984; namely, that the programs be publically administered, universal, comprehensive and portable within the country, along with a few other very broad guidelines. Provincial programs that do not meet these standards will not receive federal funding, called the Canada Health Transfer.

Within the provinces, the respective Ministries of

Health act as the insurance agency in administering care. This means that most doctors are not public employees, (unless they are working in public hospitals,) but rather, private practitioners who bill the government for services they provide to patients, at rates that are negotiated between medical associations and the government.

All you have to do as a patient at a doctor's office is give them your government-issued health insurance card, no co-pay needed. The fact that all financial settlement is streamlined between the government and the doctor leads to significantly lower administrative costs than those in the United States.

Unlike many other advanced economies with universal health care, however, most provincial programs in Canada do not have universal pharmacare or services beyond the medically necessary services provided by a doctor. This means that most Canadians have to pay out-of-pocket or with private insurance, usually provided through their employer like it is here in the United States, for services such as prescription medicine, eyeglasses, eye exams, dental cleanings, and braces. In fact, almost 30% of all health-care costs in Canada are paid for by private sources.

For example, when my mother got surgery a year and a half ago, her government insurance covered all of the costs associated with her surgery and subsequent stay in a quad room, from the drugs to the meals. The private insurance she had under my dad's employer plan upgraded her to a semi-private one. Ultimately, my dad decided to pay an extra \$50 per day out of his pocket so she could stay in a private room.

Had my family relied solely on the government's "socialized medicine", my mom would have been fine and we wouldn't have had to pay a penny for her surgery. But we still had the choice to purchase the extra, better care for my mom's stay in the hospital. To me, this is the perfect compromise to ensure a basic social safety net for all our citizens while maintaining some freedom of choice over the quality of care.

Finally, the most often heard criticism against the Canadian health-care system is how long we have to wait to see the doctor, a specialist or for a medically

necessary procedure. Many Canadians also recognize this as one of the main flaws of our system. However, American critics vastly exaggerate the extent of the problem.

Although waits for some procedures are indeed long in some areas of the country, wait times have been improving over the last decade, at least where I live in Ontario, thanks to legislation in 2005 setting benchmarks for different procedures.

Right now, the estimated average wait time to see a specialist in Canada is just over four weeks. Wait times for surgeries vary, but my mom only had to wait a mere three weeks for hers. As for primary physician care, when I was home in February and needed a sinus infection checked out on a Saturday afternoon, I drove 5 minutes to the nearest walk-in clinic and waited 20 minutes before I went into the doctor's office.

In sum, we have a system that, in general, works for most Canadians. No Canadian dies or has to declare bankruptcy because they can't afford health care. No Canadian feels so tied down to their job because they would lose all health care coverage if they moved. Growing up in Canada, I never worried about getting sick or anyone in my family getting sick.

But I will be the first to admit that Canada is not the perfect health-care utopia that many American liberals would like to claim it to be. At the same time, it is not the crude and inefficient bureaucratic nightmare that American conservatives think it is either.

For us, living in a country often so culturally, politically and economically overshadowed by our good neighbours to the south, universal health care (not quite socialized medicine!) has become a marker of our national identity, of that which makes us different from you Americans.

And just as having a strong safety net for health care has now been ingrained in our political and national culture (our governing Conservative Party is committed to maintaining the current universal system), your country's culture of individual responsibility, particularly for one's own well-being, may just explain why our kind of universal system will always remain a pipe dream in the United States.

Match Our Investments with Our Mission

READER OP-ED

Day Robins '17 is from McKinleyville, Calif.

Jeannie Bartlett '15 is from Leyden, Mass.

Middlebury may have lost control over its investments. In his Report On The Recent Board Of Trustees Meeting, President of the College Ronald D. Liebowitz wrote that our current investment strategy "raises questions about sharing authority with more institutions and therefore having less say in how, where, and with whom Investure invests." The review of our investment manager that Liebowitz proposes is the first step towards regaining control over our investments, and with that control the ability to divest.

For the past ten years, Middlebury has outsourced our investment office to Investure, a company that manages our billion-dollar endowment along with those of a dozen other institutions. Because this structure responds to so many different institutional interests, those who hold responsibility for the College's long-term success have little direct say over where our endowment is invested (go/endowment101). Over the past three years of campaigning for Middlebury to divest our endowment from fossil fuels, Divest Middlebury succeeded in raising the President's concern over this shortcoming of Investure's structure.

Divest Middlebury is part of the global movement to divest from fossil fuel companies, because we believe we should invest in the future we believe in, not contradict our efforts of carbon neutrality. We are asking for Middlebury to immediately stop buying new positions in the top 200 publicly traded fossil fuel companies and get out of any current investments in these companies within five years. Because of Investure's current model, however, we can't do that.

Whether or not the College can keep Investure and divest from fossil fuels is unknown. Last November, the Rockefeller Brothers Fund left Investure in order to divest its \$860 million endowment from fossil fuels. Their departure suggests that the probability of divesting within Investure is slim.

"It is paradoxical for environmental grant makers to fund climate solutions while investing in companies that are accelerating climate change," states

DivestInvest's mission statement, an organization of divested institutions that includes the Rockefeller Brothers Fund. "We can get good, safe returns while helping to build a new energy system."

It's also possible that Investure might adapt to give us more control. In 2010, Investure created a way to dedicate some of our investments to renewable energy. Investure launched the Sustainable Investments Initiative with funds from Middlebury, Dickinson College, and the Rockefeller Brothers Fund. At the time of its launching, Middlebury committed one fifth a percent of our endowment to these "green" investments. After Divest Middlebury's first year of campaigning, the College agreed to up our position to five percent of our college's investments. Clearly sometimes Investure can customize their offerings, and then in some ways we can have a say over where our endowment is invested.

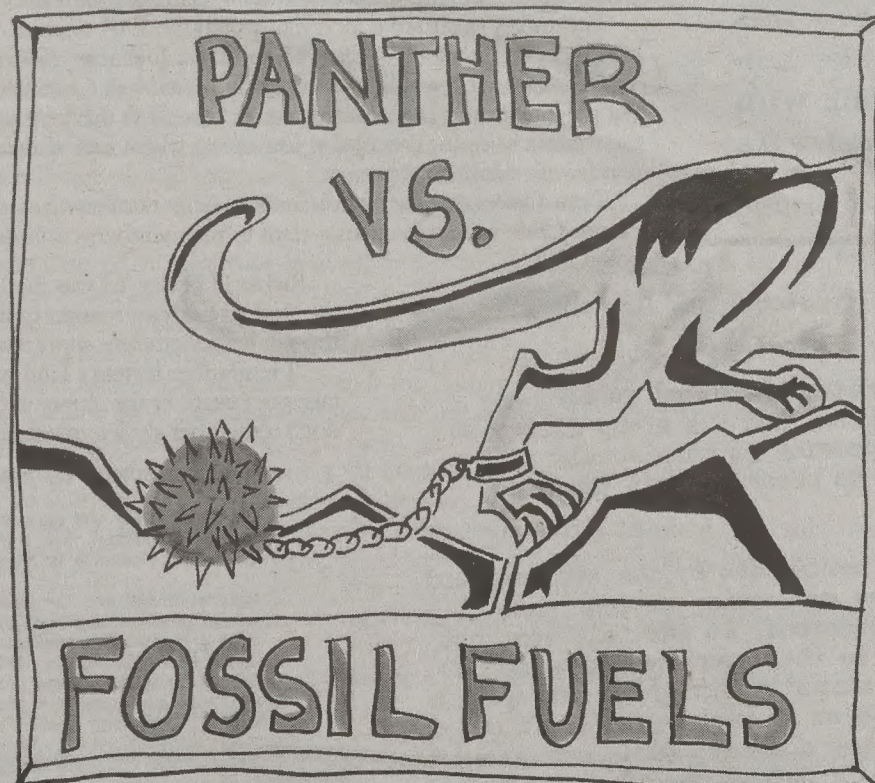
Whether we stay with Investure or leave, we can

collaborate with other investors who share our values. If Investure creates a "fossil fuel free" option for Middlebury, Dickinson College and other like-minded clients can join it. Otherwise, Middlebury and our peers should form a new investment-consortium with a manager who has expertise in environmentally and socially responsible investing.

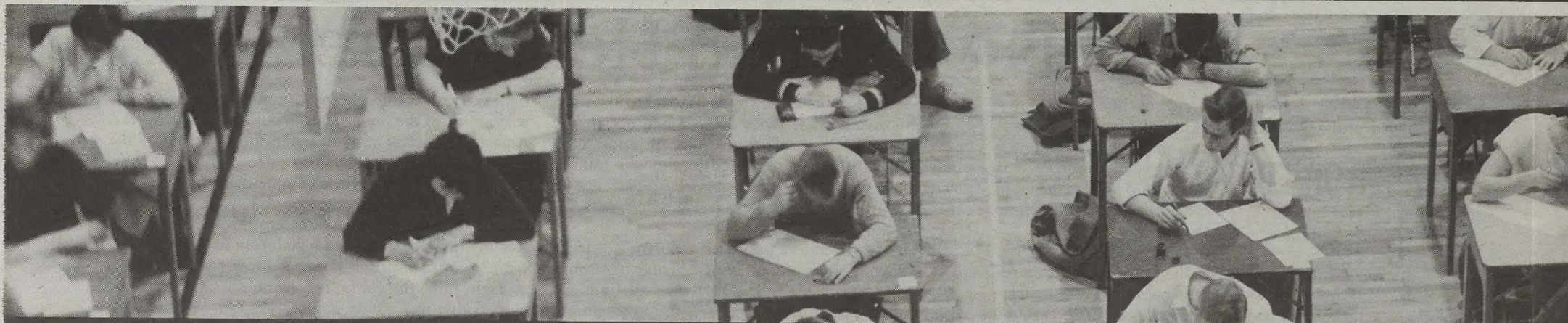
The consortium model of investing has worked well for Middlebury, financially. As Liebowitz said in his February 2nd email, "Investure... continues to generate excellent endowment returns that place Middlebury in the top quartile of colleges and universities." Of course, as students who appreciate all that this College offers us – from financial aid and top-notch academics to Real Food and biomass energy – we don't want to see the College get lower returns on investments. But we believe that fossil-fuel-free investing can make equally good returns, and that, in fact, investments in fossil fuels may pose an investment liability in the form of stranded assets. Our belief is founded on well-documented research, solid numbers and resounding expert opinion. go/endowment; go/rbf; go/divestment

When the College concludes the review of Investure, how will we know whether we have enough "say" in our investments? What are the particular questions this review will ask, and what do the answers mean for us? Divest Middlebury knows one question this review should ask: Through Investure, do we have the power to screen certain sectors or companies from our portfolio? If yes, we might stay. If no, we're out.

Let's start customizing our investments to match our mission, beginning with fossil fuel divestment.



CHARLOTTE FAIRLESS



HONOR, IDENTITY, AND ADM

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

"Students wanted to be treated as adults. The administration wanted to treat the students as adults in certain ways but not others," Stameshkin said in an interview. "It was incredible how things changed in the time [James] Armstrong was President."

These changes, taken together, amounted to a climate of dramatically increased student responsibility in social life. Naturally, this trend simultaneously made its way into the academic realm.

As discussions were underway about a potential code, the *Campus* polled 254 students in October 1962 and found 80 percent approved of a code in theory. The newspaper also polled students and found that 35 percent of those surveyed had experience with an honor system at their high school. However, "a majority indicated they would not speak directly to a student if they found him cheating."

The first instance of bringing the Honor Code to a vote occurred on November 19, 1962, when it failed. Harold Freeman '62, the Student Association (SA) President, informed the *Campus* that the vote to inaugurate an Honor Code was defeated, 623-512, a combination of students voting "no" as well as "No-with-Qualification." 235 voted no, 388 voted no with qualification and 512 voted yes. The students in favor did not reach the 85 percent threshold of "Yes" to send the measure to the faculty for a vote.

However, Freeman gave hints that the fight for a code was not over. "Freeman observed that by adding together the Yes and No-with-Qualification votes, almost four-fifths of the students were in favor of at least some form of Honor Code," reported the *Campus*. Nonetheless, it would not be easy to convince the students who voted No-with-Qualification.

The SA, in a postmortem, theorized that a main cause for the defeat was the clause requiring students to report observed violations. This clause was considered a hallmark of longstanding honor codes at universities, including Stanford and Princeton.

Students Express Opinions On Co

By FRANCINE CLARK

The "question of honor" at Middlebury seems to have plenty of support as an ideal as much as a working system.

Pres., Deans Queried On Honor Code

President James Armstrong approved the present Honor Code proposals in a meeting Monday with Michael McCann '65, chairman of the Honor Code committee.

Commenting on the present examination system at Middlebury, Dr. Armstrong, observed, "Herding of students into the fieldhouse like animals, with proctors standing over them like jail-keepers, is not in keeping with the ideals of a liberal arts education."

Peer-Reporting Controversy

These qualms about the code reared their head repeatedly in the next two years. Surveys revealed approximately 80 percent of students supported an honor system as an ideal, but blanched at the proposal under consideration. "The main objection was to the obligation to report an offense committed by another person," reported this newspaper.

Helen Gordon, president of the Panhellenic Council, "agreed that an honor code would be a benefit to Middlebury, but thought reworking of the obligation clause necessary," according to the *Campus*.

Gordon said, "It's unrealistic to assume that human nature will [report others] but I don't think they ought to leave out entirely this kind of an idea because it denies the opportunity to a person who's really honest."

The peer-reporting requirement would remain an issue through the end of the 1960s and beyond. As the clause became a sticking point in the debate, those in support of the Honor Code pushed back on the idea that peer-reporting meant "tattling" or being a "rat."

In a December 1963 issue, *Campus* Editor-in-Chief Jeffrey J. Joseph opined that "whenever one brings up the subject of an Honor Code, the listener politely nods, makes a disparaging grimace, and quickly manages to say something like: 'You going to the hockey game tomorrow night?'"

For all of the social life changes happening contemporaneously with the Honor Code debate, a large number of students felt comfortable enough with the status quo to stymie any efforts at instituting an honor system. Joseph explained that many students thought of the proposed Honor Code as either a way to end fraternities or to increase social code regulations and theorized that these factors led to its defeat.

"Let's face it," he wrote, "if someone wants to cheat, he cheats. If someone wants to 'tell' on him, he should be allowed to 'tell.' It is important to realize that a provision for 'telling' on someone is not included for the main purpose of making enemies out of friends. It is there to protect every honest student by presenting to the cheater a possibility that he will be caught. If you have any qualms about 'telling' on your buddy, keep your head down in your paper where it belongs."

Despite the support of students like Joseph, the SA leadership began to contemplate foregoing the peer-reporting requirement. The Vice President of the SA was reportedly "willing to drop the stipulation that students report others, adding that 'the maturity of Middlebury students ought to be able to make an honor code successful.'"

In December 1963, the chair of the student Honor Code Committee, Michael McCann '65, cautioned against pushing the code too vigorously without almost unanimous student support. Two months later, the SA polled students on a potential honor code in what would be the run-up to a second push to pass it via a student body vote, with particular emphasis in the questionnaire was intended to gauge how students would feel about an Honor Code. The article stated that "McCann stresses the importance of questions dealing with student and faculty reports of offenders."

The survey occurred concurrently with the 1964 election of a SA President, in which candidates weighed in on an honor code. Both John Walker '65 and Peter Delfausse '65 made an honor code a part of their platform.

Delfausse, who would win the election, said to a *Campus* reporter, "We on this campus are treated as adults in everything but the integrity of our academic work. Shouldn't this be the first area in which we should be trusted? Nothing can force the student body into accepting something which isn't wanted, but if an honor system is desired, we will find the right words with which to express it."

Nevertheless, concurrent discussion about combating student apathy regarding the SA gives the impression that the Honor Code was an issue important to the members of its committee, but perhaps was less relevant to the wider student body.

Richard Hawley '67 was the Editor-in-Chief of the *Campus*, and said other issues captured the student body's attention more than the Honor Code, particularly parietal hours — although he nonetheless appreciated the code when it was instated.

"I remember feeling a kind of relief," Hawley said in an interview. "What a relief it was to take your exam to the library and do it there. I remember thinking, 'This is wonderful.' But I don't remember student passion about it."

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE HONOR CODE

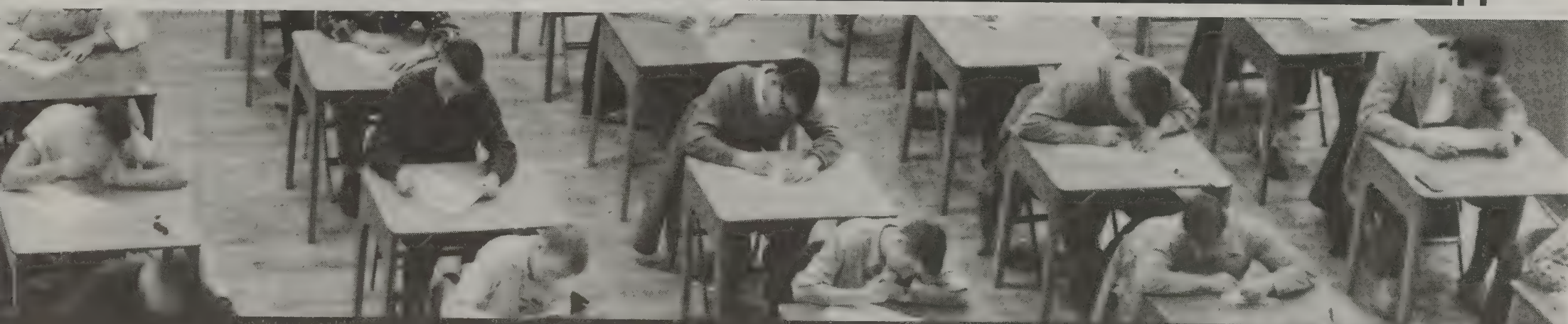
The Honor Code was approved by the students in early March. I may have missed something, but I think no further initiative toward its implementation came from students until practically exam time, if then.

Many students are far from "sold" on the Honor Code. They feel that the Administration has been determined to have an Honor Code here no matter what and that the students finally let the Administration have its way. These students have a sort of uninvolved, "play it cool" attitude. They intend to wait and see how "they" will work it out. If students who felt that way could see the minutes of the Ad Hoc Committee on Honor Code for May 27, 1965 they would feel that their perception was largely confirmed. These minutes make it clear that the Honor Code Committee, chaired by the Dean of the College, consists of several professors and administrators and that to the meeting of this committee were "invited" several specified undergraduates.

EPC Meeting 5.15 29 March Trustees' Rm. Dr Armstrong was present.

Mr Ballou presented the material worked up for the Departmental Scholar Program, and the group discussed it in detail, finally approving it unanimously and instructing the Chairman to present it at the next faculty meeting.

The Honor Code statement worked out by the students and brought to us with a large supporting student vote (indirect report), was discussed. It was felt best not to subject the statement to the scrupulous kind of inspection the EPC would normally employ in surveying a faculty document, but vote on it yea or nay as it stood; some felt that return of the document for a second student consideration and vote would defeat the proposal. Vote was unanimous pro.



ADMINISTRATION

THE FORGOTTEN
HISTORY OF THE
HONOR CODE

BY
JOE FLAHERTY

ress Code

lebury College
n ideal and not

Y, VERMONT, THURSDAY, MAY 14, 1964

NO. 28

Honor Code Fails at Polls; Turnout is 'Disappointing'

By RICHARD HAWLEY

After two full years of preparation, an academic honor code was put before the student body Monday via a yes-no ballot — and failed to gain the needed support.

The referendum, which required 85 per cent of those voting to pass, received 69 per cent

that the tally was "very close." "It was unfortunate that the

with these voting results. They appear to indicate either let students' disin-

Princeton on the Otter

Within the next few months, a figure who would be pivotal to Middlebury's history weighed in on the code. College President James Armstrong, who had stepped into the position in 1963, approved of the proposed Honor Code in a meeting with McCann.

Armstrong said in a comment to the newspaper in April 1964, "Herding of students into the fieldhouse like animals, with proctors standing over them like jailkeepers, is not in keeping with the ideals of a liberal arts education."

The influence of the college president and other key members of his administration may have been crucial to the Honor Code's passage. Before arriving at Middlebury, Armstrong had spent his entire academic career at Princeton, an Ivy League school with one of the nation's oldest academic honor codes — passed in 1893, with an obligatory peer-reporting clause. Armstrong earned his B.A. and Ph.D. from Princeton and then served as a faculty member and dean until he was appointed Middlebury's 12th President.

"When Armstrong came as president from Princeton, he started bringing people from Princeton," Stameshkin said in an interview. "In fact, the joke on campus was it was 'Princeton on the Otter.' That's what they used to call Middlebury during the '60s because Armstrong kept bringing people there."

Another Princeton man, Dennis O'Brien was previously an assistant dean there before arriving at Middlebury in September 1965 to serve as the Dean of Men. His experience with the honor system at Princeton impacted his view of a potential Honor Code at Middlebury.

"Because myself and Jim came from Princeton, we had lived with it and we found it comfortable," O'Brien told the *Campus* in a recent interview. "It seemed to establish a different relationship between faculty and students. Faculty were not always snooping over students' shoulders to make sure they weren't cheating; we were more like mentors. To suddenly switch over from being the person who is teaching someone to someone who is monitoring your honest behavior seemed not to be the image the faculty wanted to have."

On top of a Princetonian as president, Middlebury's stature as an institution was on the rise during the '60s. O'Brien believes the Honor Code was part of the improvements.

"I think there was clearly a kind of an upgrade in terms of the quality of the students and the quality of the faculty that we were able to attract at that time," he said, "and so it seemed like a much more senior, adult institution than one having proctored exams."

The desire for an upgrade to Middlebury came from both above, with the administration, and also below, from students of the '60s, particularly those who were tired of the fraternities' hold on campus life.

"There was a genuine feeling that there should be more seriousness at the College intellectually," Stameshkin said. "And the same thing was happening at Williams and other schools. This idea that there should be more intellectualism and more feeling of scholarship was also happening in the early to mid-60s."

Nonetheless, the vocal support of Armstrong and O'Brien did not help the Honor Code at the ballot box at first. The proposed code failed in May 1964 to clear the 85 percent hurdle of students voting in favor, and the referendum did not receive even half of the student body's participation. The result was devastating for those students who had worked tirelessly on behalf of a code.

"After two full years of preparation, an academic honor code was put before the student body Monday via a yes-or-no ballot — and failed to gain the needed support," said a front-page article in the *Campus*. The measure received 69 percent "yes" votes from the 45 percent of the student body that voted. The rejected code included "that the test-taker pledge that he had neither given nor received aid" and that students report those they suspected of cheating within 48 hours.

The aforementioned Honor Code Committee displayed dogged, even stubborn, persistence to pass the measure. McCann told this newspaper, "This year's balloting was far more encouraging than last year's and there will be another honor committee next year trying to get this thing through."

Victory, at a Cost

Despite McCann's optimism, the outlook was grim: two votes and two defeats for an Honor Code within three years. But finally, in March 1965, the Honor Code was approved in a landslide. With 1,000 "yes" votes to 313 "no" votes, it was a marked improvement from the previous two tries in the fall of 1962 and the spring of 1964.

However, the code approved by students contained no compulsory peer-reporting clause such as that of Princeton, due to the fact that the committee viewed the clause as the reason for previous defeats.

The Middlebury code stated that students with knowledge of an infraction should confront the student and if he or she does not report themselves to the honor board within 24 hours, the observer should. In O'Brien's words, it was a passive reporting clause, with no teeth to punish a student who observes cheating and does not report it. The code that passed, unlike the previous versions, said students "should" report those they observed cheating, not "must" or "shall" of previous drafts.

The compulsory reporting clause had also been under fire in the opinions pages of this newspaper. In a Letter to the Editor on Feb. 25, 1965, William Michaels '66 wrote: "Under the present system of exam proctoring, the College denies us the privilege of attempting to live up to the ideals of moral responsibility ... this would also be the case if an honor code were passed which possessed a mandatory student reporting clause, since the student is not thus delegated the responsibility of looking after his own morality: it is merely shifted from the proctors to the other students."

It was also a significant change that the threshold for victory was lowered to 75 percent from a lofty 85 percent, what it had been in 1962 and 1964. Some students grumbled about the idea of voting for an Honor Code for a third time, suggesting that other factors may have been at play in its success. A joke printed in the *Campus* poked fun at the code's long-awaited victory. "Did you favor the Honor System at the recent election?" a student asks. His friend replies, "I sure did. I voted for it five times."

President Armstrong was understandably pleased following the successful vote, as it was an initiative he had supported since the past spring, and he immediately set to work assigning administrators to it. In an October 1965 letter to the four members of the new subcommittee of the Faculty Administration Committee on the Honor Code, including Dean of Men O'Brien, Armstrong said, "Although I do not think you will be called upon for heavy duty quantitatively, I know you understand how important I believe the Honor Code is for the College and that a guiding hand from the faculty will be important and possibly crucial."

Armstrong also probably worried that a lack of faculty support might end the last chance for the Honor Code to become a reality. He was present in a meeting of the Faculty Educational Policy Committee (EPC) in March 1965, after the code had been approved by the referendum.

"The honor code statement worked out by the students and brought to us with a large supporting student vote ... was discussed," states the meeting's minutes. "It was felt best not to subject the statement to the scrupulous kind of inspection the EPC would normally employ in surveying a faculty document, but vote on it yea or nay as it stood; some felt that return of the document for a second student consideration and vote would defeat the proposal. Vote was a unanimous pro."

It appears the EPC's worries about the Honor Code failing in the student body led them to streamline its approval process, despite reservations that undoubtedly existed among the faculty.

The faculty also approved a key word choice in the code in April 1965. During the faculty meeting in which they approved the code, according to the article in the *Campus*, the faculty "did not demand a change to 'must'" in the reporting clause.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 12

Honor Code Text Approved by SA, Tabled by SLC; Students Vote Monday

The Honor Code Constitution was tabled by the Student Life Committee yesterday, pending the results of a vote on the Honor System by the student body on Monday and Tuesday of next week. The Committee approved of an Honor System but did not vote on the text, which was approved unanimously by the Student Association Monday night.

Preamble

"The students of Middlebury College believe that the individual undergraduate must assume responsibility for his own integrity on all written examinations. This constitution has been written and implemented by students in a community of individuals which values integrity as a way of life. The Middlebury student body, then, declares its commitment to an honor system which fosters moral growth and to a code which will not tolerate dishonesty in the college community."

Article I Orientation

1. Before enrolling at Middlebury College each

student must agree to abide by and uphold this Honor System.

2. A student Honor Board shall prepare a statement for all incoming students describing the aims and operation of the academic Honor System. The Honor Board shall also conduct an orientation session during freshman week so that all new students fully understand the system.

Article II Examination Procedure

1. No proctors shall be present during examinations.

2. The professor will remain in the examination

(Continued on Page 8)

DESIGN BY CASSIE KENT

Students Not Sold

There is a small piece of evidence that the College may have enacted an honor code regardless of the student vote. Dean of the College Thomas H. Reynolds wrote in his annual report dated July 1, 1964:

"There is an excellent chance that an almost unanimous student vote will be achieved next year. In the event that this kind of a program does not succeed next year, I recommend the College take some action towards bringing an academic honor system into effect."

While Reynolds never ended up having to make that recommendation, O'Brien disagreed with his premise.

"I don't think you should impose it without a successful student vote. I think that would have been a mistake to try to do that," O'Brien told this reporter. "I think the whole idea of an honor code, to a certain extent, is to get away from the high school syndrome of, 'You have to be proctored and not entirely trusted.'"

The following year, as new Dean of Men, Dennis O'Brien's first annual report was pessimistic, illuminating the reasons why Reynolds or others might have pursued an Honor Code if the student body would not.

"By the time the student reaches the last half of his college career we have pretty much either got him involved intellectually or we have lost him for good ... they may be active in fraternity life, extracurricular life, athletics, they may be valuable citizens in other ways, but academically they run along on minimal requirements seeking the gut courses and paying only lip service, if that, to the intellectual community," wrote O'Brien in his annual report in June 1965.

He went on in that report to comment on the lackluster implementation of the Honor Code. "The Honor Code was approved by students in early March," O'Brien wrote. "I may have missed something, but I think no further initiative toward its implementation came from students until practically exam time, if then."

O'Brien also observed how the administration was involved from the very beginning and that students were not yet invested in the code:

"Many students are far from 'sold' on the Honor Code. They feel that the Administration has been determined to have an Honor Code here no matter what and that the students finally let the Administration have its way. These students have a sort of uninvolved, 'play it cool' attitude. They intend to wait and see how 'they' will work it out. If students who felt that way could see the minutes of the Ad Hoc Committee on Honor Code for May 27, 1965 they would feel that their perception was largely confirmed. These minutes make it clear that the Honor Code Committee, chaired by the Dean of the College, consists of several professors and administrators and that to the meeting of this committee were 'invited' several specified undergraduates."

O'Brien also cited a study from Columbia University that said for honor codes to be effective, the motivation should come from students and should appear to be coming from students.

The difference between the honor codes at Princeton and Middlebury, he told this newspaper in October 1965, was not Princeton's "obligatory clause for reporting, but a strong and firm belief in the system by faculty and students."

Of the code, "it was held with a great deal of pride," O'Brien said. "Most complaints of the new Middlebury system that I have heard have not been substantive, but procedural. And I think there are some false expectations about the system by a few students."

A Reversal in Student Perception

Two years later in another report, O'Brien suggested that the honor code might have already backfired soon after its implementation.

"The Honor Code seems to be functioning well although there is still a certain amount of feeling against signing the pledge," he wrote. "I personally feel that the distaste for the pledge grows out of a hypersensitivity on the part of students today that they are not trusted. As they are not trusted to close their dorm doors during parietal hours, so they feel they are not trusted in the matter of honor in examinations."

This reversal in opinion was extraordinary. The push for the Honor Code, at least from students, was based on the idea that it would give the students more responsibility and was in the same spirit as a move away from parietal hours. Based on O'Brien's report, the code had the opposite effect, making students feel like the administration trusted them less than before.

Whether the code was truly being followed is difficult to assess based on available records, but O'Brien writes that "a student was convicted of a violation of the Honor Code this year and suspended for a semester," a low number of convictions by any standard.

Although during the 1960s the social rules at colleges and universities like Middlebury were being chipped away from all sides, it still took a great deal of effort on the part of members of the SA to pass an honor code via a student vote. Additionally, the faculty minutes and annual reports of the College show that at least one top member of the administration was ready to intervene to institute an honor code and held back probably because of concerns of its effectiveness if instated and operated by Old Chapel.

O'Brien's 1967 assessment is revealing. There had been two unsuccessful votes from students amid vocal support from the administration and faculty; as a result, many students identified the Honor Code as an administrative device. A corollary explanation is that the social changes in the 1960s cut both ways on an honor system: while these sweeping changes helped make the code a possibility, they also changed the way a code was viewed in the years afterward. Increased freedom for students allowed them to pass the code; however, the perception of the code after 1965 was that it was an administrative measure — not a student-owned freedom.

"It's very important that the students read the honor code as an administrative imposition as opposed to something that boiled up from the students," Stameshkin said. "The students felt often as if the administration was kind of the enemy. They wanted to be adults and they felt the administration was treating them like children—you have to be in at this hour and all that — it wasn't paranoia, but the students felt that way about a lot of things."

The *Campus* reported in March 1968, three years after the code passed, that the student Honor Board was worried about the new system's efficacy. The board had only heard six cases since 1965, and three of those were in the 1967-68 year. Two cases resulted in convictions, and only one of the six cases was because of a report submitted by another student. "This the board felt suggests either that only two students have cheated in the last three years, or that students have not accepted the responsibilities implicit in the system," reported this newspaper.

The Honor Board, as a result, began to consider changing the constitution of the

new Honor Code from passive acceptance of the code to hold responsible a student who did not report a violation.

A decade later, in January 1976, the student body approved by a landslide the revisions proposed by a committee on the honor system. There were dual changes: students now had a moral obligation to report cheating, moving away from the ambiguous language of the original code, and also proctors would be allowed in some cases with the specific authorization of the Judicial Review Board.

Even under the best of circumstances, O'Brien said in a recent interview, getting students to report their peers may be asking too much.

"My guess is that [peer-reporting] never works terribly well, unless you're in a highly codified organization like the military academy," O'Brien said. "I'm not even so sure how well it worked at Princeton ... it's a nice thing to have: there's a certain moral responsibility, and I love the idea of going up to somebody else and saying, 'You shouldn't have done that.' But I suspect it doesn't happen very often."

It is difficult to assess whether the code cut down on cheating, as suggested by research that shows colleges with an honor code have less self-reported cheating by students. On that front, Emeritus Dean of Advising and Assistant Professor of American Studies Karl Lindholm '67 said the Honor Code did not hurt and probably helped.

"I remember thinking it was a great idea. I don't think there was any greater level of cheating than when the exams were tightly proctored," Lindholm said. "It was almost a challenge to see if you could beat the system then," with stories of notes written on hands and crib sheets hidden during an exam. "With unproctored exams, I don't recall any greater level of cheating," he said.

Approaching Another Vote

In a January survey by the SGA, 33 percent of the student body said they support the Honor Code in principle but that there need to be changes. 59 percent of the 1438 survey respondents said they support it in its current form and about 7 percent said they don't support it.

Additionally, the *Campus* published ("Cheating: Hardly a Secret," Oct. 30, 2013) the results of a survey by Craig Thompson '14 for the course Economics of Sin where 35 percent of 377 students surveyed admitted to violating the Honor Code at least once in the 2012-13 academic year. 97 percent were not punished.

On Sunday, the discussion came to a head when the SGA Senate approved, in a nearly unanimous vote, the decision to move ahead with a bill that would subject the Honor Code to a biennial student referendum. The referendum would give students three options: to vote to maintain the honor code as it stands, to eliminate it or to revise it. A majority in favor of revision would cause the Honor Code committee to survey opinions during a two-week revision process. Students would then vote on the revised Honor Code to either approve it, to maintain the original code, or to eliminate the code. A vote to eliminate would suspend the code until it came time for the next referendum, when students could vote to reinstate it.

Student Co-Chair of Community Council Ben Bogin '15 was an impetus behind the SGA proposal and said fighting atrophy was a goal.

"The idea behind our method is to encourage people to continue talking about the Honor Code after they sign it as a first-year," Bogin wrote in an email. "The Honor Code only works if it's a living, breathing document that people cherish and take seriously. We're trying to breathe a little more life into it."

SGA Director of Academic Affairs Cate Costley '15 added that the idea is to reclaim the Honor Code as a document students care about and take ownership of.

"Through conversations and debates, we settled on a schoolwide vote to try to solicit the voices of our peers and to see what they think," Costley said. "And having an edge to it with the possibility of eliminating the Honor Code is to say to people, 'Let's not take this document for granted.'"

Vice President for Student Affairs, Dean of the College and Assistant Professor of the History of Art and Architecture Katy Smith Abbott said she believes discussion has also been sparked by the decision in the Economics Department to proctor exams in introductory classes starting last spring.

"It's not that proctoring hasn't been an option for faculty — it has been — but it's required a certain kind of approval process that most people thought was not necessary or wasn't in the spirit of the Honor Code," Smith Abbott said. "And I think when that decision was made (thoughtfully, and at great length) by the Economics Department, it meant that a larger number of students were being exposed to the question of whether the Honor Code is working."

Smith Abbott also said that the code could possibly fail in a referendum, based on what she has heard from students.

"I think some of my lack of a firm sense of how it would go is based on the variety of opinions out there right now about whether or not the Honor Code is working," she said. "I think if we have entered into a period where more students, through their own experience or inherited wisdom, think the Honor Code isn't working, we could see it fail."

Several on Community Council, according to Smith Abbott, have raised doubts about the wisdom of a biennial survey in which the Honor Code could be eliminated.

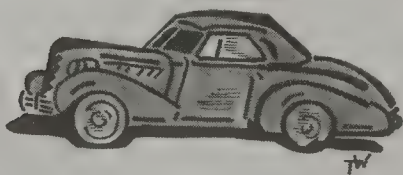
"I think a lot of folks on Community Council — and I have mixed feelings about this — felt that those are insurmountable odds that, if two years later, you have two classes of students who have never lived with an Honor Code," Smith Abbott said. "What's their investment in bringing it back? Why are we putting that on them by saying, '[An honor code] worked for some people and didn't work for others, but it's on you to decide to overwhelmingly vote it back into existence?'"

Bogin, however, said that that he is not worried about failure and that the discussion of the code's relevance is worth having through a referendum.

"I think that it's incredibly unlikely that the Honor Code would fail in a vote. According to our most recent student survey, in which about 60 percent of the student body voted, 92 percent supported the continued existence of the Honor Code," Bogin wrote. "I also think that it's important to say that if something isn't working, and everybody agrees, we should be able to get rid of it. It's hard to say that the Honor Code is student owned if students don't have the power to get rid of it."

Hawley, who was at Middlebury during the Honor Code debate, said renewed attention to the code is not a bad thing.

"I think the cycle of concern is probably the best thing, whatever the outcome, because it's heightening student awareness of how it's my responsibility to do my own work. I don't think there's anything that would prove that a certain kind of honor code produces more honor," Hawley said. "It's sort of what Jefferson said about the American Constitution: it should be revisited; there should be at least a thread of revolution every 20 years to keep attention fresh on what the values are. I think raising the climate of concern about it is probably the most important thing with respect to honor, not necessarily what code you have written down."

FULL SPEED AHEAD
 THE PREMIER CAR COLUMN


By Charlie Ascher

Ladies and Gentleman, fret not, the *Campus's* greatest car column is back (yes, I know you don't care, but I care, so show some respect). I assure you that I used my time off wisely. Over the course of J-Term, I dedicated myself to the grueling and complicated task of figuring out the conversion of the Liebowitz-o-Meter to the Patton-o-Meter due to the upcoming presidential switch. Currently, by my calculations, the conversion from Rons to Lauries is roughly 2.45 to 1, but I will have a definite final calculation by the end of the semester. Anyway, it's time to get back to it with the next edition of *Broke College Students in Cars Getting McDonalds*.

The Car: Grey, Automatic Transmission, 3rd Generation Audi A4 Wagon

Car Name: Kurt

The Owner: John "from Wisconsin" Geilfuss '17

Styling: "Real wagons have curves" is the slogan of this Teutonic beast. It's like your standard boxy wagon, but ... curvier. It looks a bit like a bar of chocolate that you've held just a bit too long in your hand as you debate with yourself whether or not to eat it (spoiler alert: you're going to eat it, your self-control sucks). It's an all around good-looking wagon. Personally, I think that the headlights and taillights are a little bit droopy looking, like they're trying desperately to stay awake after a rough night in Bi-Hall but it just isn't working too well. It looks solid though with nice strong character lines on either side. Bonus points because it's a wagon.

Liebowitz-o-Meter: 4.5/5 Rons

Interior: Let's just say that John Geilfuss thinks of a car's floor as a storage zone for empty seltzer cans. The floor of this German beast holds perhaps the country's greatest mobile collection of 20th-century seltzer cans, covering a whole range of years and flavors! (Seriously John, clean up your car!) Other than that, the front seats are super comfortable and supportive. The steering wheel feels nicely weighted and is at least 100x more confidence inspiring than Atwater tongs in your hands, which, considering that it's designed to drive a car rather than pick up chicken Caesar salad, is a good thing. Our official Bosnian back seat tester (BBST for short,) Karlo Škarica '17, gave mixed reviews. The BBST cited a lack of behind padding as a flaw of the A4's back seat. The stereo played the only CD available, Lupe Fiasco's *Food and Liquor*, very well.

Liebowitz-o-Meter: 3/5 Rons because of the can collection, 4.5/5 Rons without

Handling and Performance: TURRRRBOOOOO. It honestly surprised me when I first touched the gas; this Audi is powerful. After ripping up the Ridgeline lot we screamed out at a totally reasonable and safe 25 miles per hour. The Audi drives really well with nice solid steering feel and plenty of power. The brakes are a bit touchy, but it stops well. The engine does have some turbo lag, but once it gets spooled up there's plenty of power for whatever you would possibly need to do.

Liebowitz-o-Meter: 5/5 Rons

Drive-through-ability: Truth be told, we were in a formal mood today and all had on our best polar fleeces, so we opted for the McDonalds dine-in experience. Have no fear though; the A4 has every sign of a true drive-through beast. It's got automatic power windows, there are plenty of cupholders for your extra large diet Coke (I totally get that you're watching your calories), and the window lines up almost perfectly with the drive through window. Unfortunately, the center armrest does not feature a dedicated McNugget pocket.

Liebowitz-o-Meter: 4.5/5 Rons

Final Verdict: Kurt the Audi A4 Wagon absolutely crushed Middlebury's most grueling automotive test. Kurt handled exceptionally well with plenty of power and great steering. The Audi has ample space for even the vastest of empty seltzer can collections, and the front seats are great, even if the BBST felt the back seats left something to be desired. All-in-all Kurt is just a really solid McDonalds chariot.

Liebowitz-o-Meter: 4.75/5 Rons

Coates Shakes Campus with "The Case for Reparations"

By Kizzy Joseph

Class is not dismissed yet, folks — acclaimed journalist and senior editor for *The Atlantic* Ta-Nehisi Coates still has a lot to teach us at Middlebury.

Last Wednesday night, hundreds of Middlebury students packed Mead Memorial Chapel to hear Coates's lecture on his *Atlantic* cover story "The Case for Reparations." He reminds us that we can not avoid discussing race in America.

"Racism is an interest ... [it is] a product of ignorance," said Coates as his voice echoed through the hall.

Racism did not stem from race, but rather, race stemmed from racism, Coates argued. Race was a justification for slavery, the exploitation of the black race or as Coates deemed, "the greatest wave of domestic terrorism" in the United States. It was the blood, sweat and tears of 4 million enslaved Africans that merely meant a profit worth \$3.5 billion dollars in the eyes of 700,000 white male slaveowners.

"There is no definition of race," Coates said at the talk.

Race is a social construct, void of biological basis, according to Coates. The need to justify material interest was what brought along "black" and "white."

Coates argued that the concepts "black" and "white" are quite different. Black is an ethnic group. It represents a myriad of cultures — from food to music to language.

Being black in today's world holds different context than being black in Sao Paulo, Brazil or in 18th century Louisiana. So if black is an ethnic group, does that mean white is an ethnic group as well? No, Coates claimed. White is privilege.

"White and power cannot be divorced," he said.

To further his claim, he asked members of the Middlebury community to imagine a world without white supremacy. Would, then, the idea of being white exist? To Coates, no. And there we have it, the chasm between "black" and

"White and power cannot be divorced."

TA-NEHISI COATES
SENIOR EDITOR OF THE ATLANTIC

ing the 1940s, African Americans were denied obtaining Federal Housing Administration loans and mortgages. Today, an African American family earning \$100,000/year is most likely to reside



RACHEL FRANK

Last Wednesday, Senior Editor at *The Atlantic* Ta-Nehisi Coates said slavery and racism stems from economic interest. Hundreds of students packed Mead Chapel.

"white."

So if we have learned to realize that race is a social construct, why does it matter? Racism is deeply entrenched in American history and is still present today. We see racism through the tragic killings of Eric Garner, Michael Brown and many African Americans of multiple identities. Ferguson does not have a police department, Coates said — it is a "collection agency with guns."

We see racism through apparent economic disparities between blacks and whites. Dur-

in a neighborhood where the average white family earns \$30,000/year, Coates cited. He also cited that for every \$1 a black family has in wealth, a white family has \$20.

Until there is a "national consciousness" there will be no reparations and end to racism in America, Coates said. So what do we do? According to Coates, this "national consciousness" begins with the will and courage to have "self-confrontation" with our identity.

Self-confrontation is not being colorblind but 1) realizing that race is a social construct we have been conditioned to accept, 2) freeing ourselves from the limitations social constructs create and 3) realizing that there are no innate differences that justify racism.

Miguel Fernandez, Professor of Spanish and Chief Diversity Officer, reflected on the lecture. "I found Ta-Nehisi Coates' perspective on race and racism original and thought-provoking," he said. "His challenges to each of us to question our self identity and to America to live up to the high standards it sets resonated in the aftermath of the Ferguson investigation."

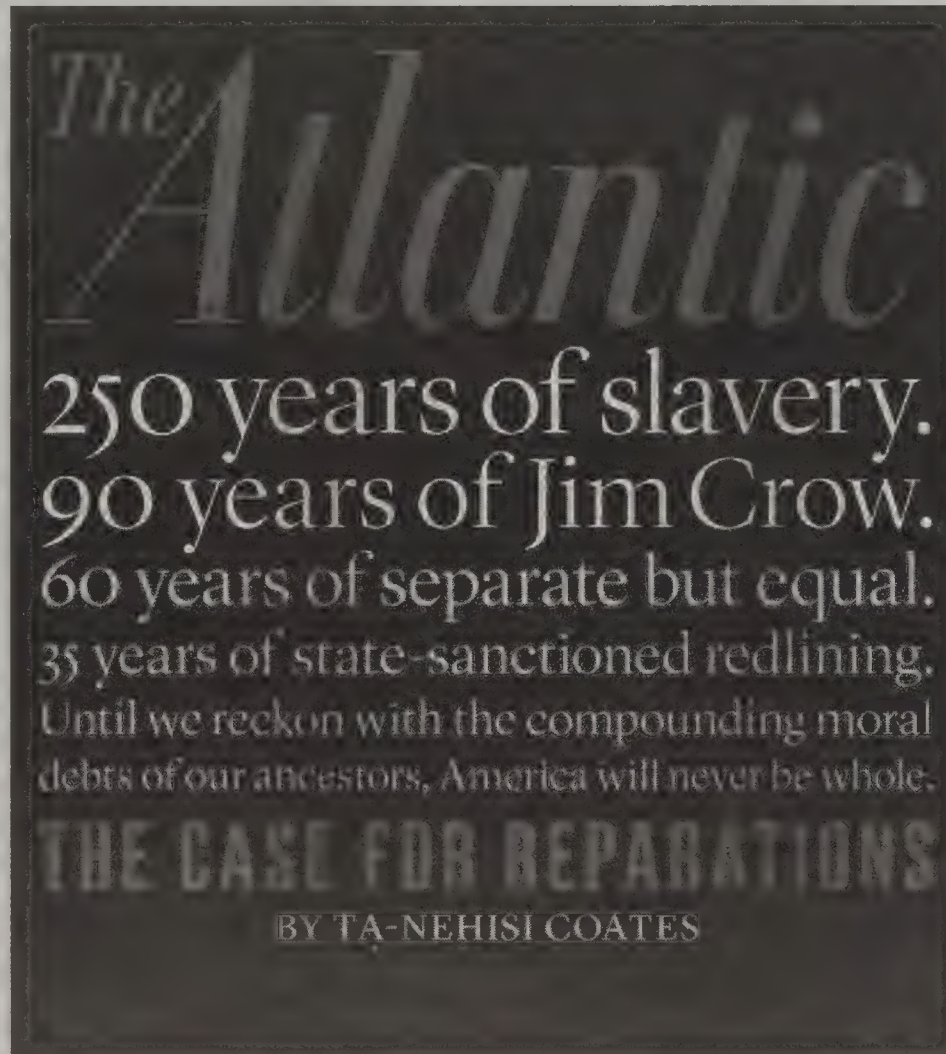
Coates' speech also had staying power among students.

"It was so good to see so much of the community, including professors, show up to hear Ta-Nehisi speak," Molly McShane '16.5, one of the organizers of JusTalks, said. "I was really struck by his call to action for white people to have the courage to take part in a self-confrontation of our whiteness. I also thought his comments to students were unapologetic and straightforward — the reminder to never mask your identity and think about bigger picture systems of oppression is always good to hear."

"I was incredibly blown away by how much his speech changed my way of thinking and how his call to action was both powerful and yet accessible to everyone regardless of 'racial' background," Claudia Huerta '18 said. "I've begun to see my own privilege in a new way and am excited to explore what my identity is outside of my race."

"It is dangerous to know, because to know is to act," uttered Coates. This is Race 101 and class is not dismissed yet. The conversation on race shall continue. How can we put an end to racial injustice, first starting in the community of Middlebury?

Perhaps first by attending the Ta-Nehisi Coates Lecture follow-up discussion Wednesday, March 11 at 4:30 p.m. in the Coltrane Lounge.



COURTESY OF THE ATLANTIC

Coates' June 2014 piece "The Case for Reparations" was published on the front page of *The Atlantic*. The piece asks the nation to confront our dark history of slavery.

Microgrid App Wins Big at 3rd Place

By Grace Levin

On February 9, a mobile app created by a collaboration of students at the College won third place in the (Em)Powering Grid Resilience Competition. The student-led initiative designed the app ReGrid to create a direct connection between utility companies and their customers as a way to diminish environmental consequences in microgrid development.

Last fall, Isaac Baker '14.5 discovered the competition when researching for his J-term class on the microgrid. Baker brought the competition to the awareness of Sunday Night Group, and a team was formed composed of students from an array of disciplines and years.

"I've always been very interested in broad banner sustainability, but energy is something that is very tangible that affects all of us in our daily lives. That was attractive to me," Lindsay Warne '15 said. "It was a way to actually apply this knowledge and really grapple with the messiness of what energy sustainability looks like."

The twelve members of the Middlebury team set to answer Spark Clean Energy's prompt, which asked eighteen universities to use technology to build a more environmentally stable grid.

"The prompt itself was so vague. It was this awesome, slightly terrifying creative problem solving process. A lot of the time we had to say what are we actually doing, what is the real problem here, which is exciting but also challenging. We got really interested in this idea of resiliency and grid electrical strategies," Warne said.

The team designed the app ReGrid, which creates an aggregate interface for microgrid customers to control their electricity usage. ReGrid enables customers to view their utility bill, report power outages, and participate in load reduction savings day under a demand response program. The app allows customers to save money and be more energy efficient, while benefiting the utility companies by stabilizing the microgrid through customer usage. Members of the team including Zach

"Today, we cannot begin to predict the environmental solutions a group of smart and motivated Middlebury students will design when left to their own devices, creativity and collaboration!"

NAN JENKS-JAY
DEAN OF ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS



Middlebury students created ReGrid, an app that supports microgrid development.

Berzolla '18 spent three weeks developing the idea.

"We put [the app] together piece by piece. We built this massive flow chart of how we wanted to design the app, which took up the whole whiteboard," Berzolla said.

"We pulled pieces from what we knew existed. For example, with outage reporting we thought it could be a little bit like Waze."

Once the students developed the idea, they worked on Adobe Photoshop and Illustrator to design the interface and submit ReGrid to the competition. For freshman students like Emma Ronai-Durning '18, the competition was a great way to get involved in a team project.

"I've been sort of brought up as an environmentalist, but I hadn't done anything active till I got [to the College]. [The competition] was a good way to participate in a hands-on project," Ronai-Durning said. "It was fun to work with a group that was super motivated. There was a lot of energy. People wanted to get things done. It was cool to see a project from start to finish."

After the team submitted their project, Spark Clean Energy interviewed the team including Berzolla about their design.

"They grilled us, asking what about costs, what about the backend, how is this going to get crunched in, how are the utilities going to see this, and what kind of infrastructure do we need. It was intense,"

Berzolla said.

Baker and Forrest Carroll '15 presented ReGrid at the 2015 ARPA-E Energy Innovation Summit in Washington, D.C to a panel of microgrid industry representatives.

"Everyone wanted it to be fair, so deciding who was going to present was a little hard. No one wants to be exclusive. We wanted everyone to participate," Ronai-Durning said.

The undergraduate Middlebury team won third place behind graduate teams from the University of Southern California and Cornell. Spark Clean Energy now owns the rights to the ReGrid app.

"The idea is that [Spark Clean Energy] will incorporate the information into their business model, but in terms of this going further on campus, not so much," Warne said. "It was sort of a tangential project into the broader micro grid."

The ReGrid team won a cash prize, which in the future will be put towards other environmental projects on campus.

"In terms of how this fits into things at Middlebury, we see it as a broader move within the Environmental Studies program towards experiential learning opportunities and how that relates to liberal arts. This was a completely student-run initiative and was sort of the tip of the iceberg of what value student-led projects can bring to the university," Warne said.

Nan Jenks-Jay, Dean Of Environmental Affairs, agreed with Warne in a press release on Feb. 5: "Today we cannot begin to predict the environmental solutions a group of smart and motivated Middlebury students will design when left to their own devices, creativity, and collaboration – the ReGrid app is a perfect example!"

Helder Der Nacht: Heroes of the Night

By Hye-Jin Kim

"There's something surreal about it. You feel like God," Will Jacobs '16.5 said.

Jacobs drives a Snowcat: a 20,000 lb. hulk of metal capable of grooming sub-par snow into quality skiing terrain. In Germany, where the machines are made, a Snowcat driver is called "Helder der nacht," which translates to "hero of the night."

But with this great title comes great responsibility. "When you go to a ski area and it's a really bad ski day, sometimes that's the weather conditions," Jacobs said. "Most of

the time, it's the groomer who doesn't know what they're doing."

His training began during his Feb-mester in New Zealand, where he did an unpaid apprenticeship at Whakapaka ski resort for three weeks. Since then, he's worked at ski resorts in Chile and at Squaw Valley in California.

Jacobs described the thrill of driving a Snowcat as a power trip. "When you're up there during a snowstorm in the night, you can't see a thing and you're pushing piles of snow so big that you can't see out. You have enormous power."



Grooming the terrain, Will Jacobs '16.5 operated the Snowcat on the slopes in Chile.

However, the job is not always glorious. "Sliding sideways off the mountain [in a Snowcat] is never fun," he laughed, recalling a scary incident in New Zealand.

The hours are also unconventional. Jacob's day usually began around 4 or 5 p.m. when trails close, to 11 p.m. or later. At Squaw Valley in California, he groomed during "the graveyard shift," which ran from midnight to when the mountain opened the next morning at 8 a.m. "That's just awful. I did that for a week. It's not something I'd ever want to do in the long run," he said.

Though Jacobs loves spending time on the mountain in a Snowcat, the Boston native never had dreams of becoming a ski bum when he got into grooming. "It's not a ski bum job," he said, citing the late-night hours, and required experience with heavy machinery that most people lack. "Skiing is kind of an upper-class sport, and being able to run a Snowcat is more of a middle class occupation. That was my situation."

Currently, Jacobs is on the Snowbowl and the Rikert Nordic Center's substitute list in case one of the regular groomers calls in sick, a rare occasion that happened once this year.

"I just do it for free. It's a fun activity for me," he said.

Even when he got paid working at Squaw Valley, he didn't earn much, only around \$12-13 an hour. Jacobs now considers his unique Snowcat skill set as a hobby. "I've wanted to do it since I was probably five years old," he said. "When you're five, you like any and every big machine. That love of big trucks, I never grew out of it."

IN-QUEER-Y

By Lee Michael Garcia Jimenez and Rubby Valentin Paulino

In my junior year in high school, I used to believe that people who didn't choose to come out to their friends and family were part of the problem. Their "being in the closet" was detrimental to the visibility of LGBT+ people in the world and, therefore, was slowing down the biggest challenge for all queer folk, marriage equality. I, too, used to believe that marriage equality was the most pressing gay issue. Making myself visible to the public and striving for marriage made me one of them. I was playing up to hetero-ideals of success in life and relationships. Now, I see how this desire to assimilate is presented in today's politics and my personal dialogue about the importance of coming out.

Recently, the Obama administration formally supported nationwide gay marriage, and President Obama included gay Americans in his speech at 50th Anniversary of 'Bloody Sunday' in Selma Alabama. He says, "We are the gay Americans whose blood ran on the streets of San Francisco and New York, just as blood ran down this bridge." I cannot help but tear up. Our President was claiming my gay identity as both American and his. I found this part of his speech remarkable and daring. How would the American public respond? How could anyone possibly disagree?

Working under the model "the personal is political," it would make sense why the concept of being out is such a public (read: straight) affair, when in reality "being in the closet" is a private (read: queer) affair. In order for there to be political progress, a population of people need to first identify as LGBT+. The little Harvey Milk in me wanted to believe that all struggles for the LGBTQ community would disappear if we were out and about and proud. But also I've begun to see violence in having people come out in order to gain these human rights because "out-ness" comes with privilege. Even though Obama's speech made me want to stand up with him and own my Americanness and sexuality in the same sentence, I was exercising a type of privilege and putting myself into a box. I found myself becoming "normal" to the American public. Is that the point of marriage equality? To normalize queer folk?

A part of marriage equality is having queer people assimilate to heteronormative standards of relationships. There is no more room for sexual liberation at the center of queer life. Instead, marriage equality shows that we are just like them when, in fact, we aren't. We should not be fighting for the very institutions that uphold heteronormative values against us. Marriage shouldn't be the sacred center of equality for the LGBT community. We do not have to tone ourselves down. We do not have to get married in order to have meaningful relationships. We do not have to oppress ourselves for who we are.

This argument obviously becomes more complicated when presented with same-sex couples adopting children and hospital visiting rights, but I believe that those issues can be solved without marriage equality. Politics aren't being changed in our favor; instead, we are becoming the exception to the rule, our rights and perspectives are still being marginalized as a whole. This obsession with coming out and claiming marital rights is contradictory to the diversity within the queer community. Queer people endure all types of job, education, medical and housing discrimination before they can even start to worry about marriage. Some can't even come out without fearing for their lives.

These aspects of the queer community put in perspective how marriage equality and coming out are issues that are too caught up in marketing our identities to the public than catering to the actual people affected. So now I find no importance in coming out or marriage equality. There must be other ways in which we can educate the American public about us without perpetuating our own oppression. There must be other ways for our same-sex relationships to hold their importance on paper without assimilating to marriage.

ARTS & SCIENCES

The Middlebury Campus

Theatrical Dance Probes Abstract Ideas

By Mandy Kimm

A few days before Sola was to be performed at the Middlebury College Dance Theatre this past weekend, I received an email from the box office stating that the Friday night show would be an abbreviated version of the full concert. I wondered what their apology was really for — and considered that if I had not been notified I might not have known that the concert was any different from what the dancers had intended it to be. I hadn't yet formed an expectation of what I would be getting from the show, and so hearing that it would be different from the dancers' intended performance was odd — because how was I to know what the intended performance was supposed to be, since it hadn't happened yet?

When I attended on Friday night I was part of a small audience, and quite a few people had expressed to me their desire to see the full concert instead of an abbreviated version. While I understand that in creating a performance, there is an element of wholeness created through the rehearsal and choreographic process, Sola was an evening of solo works choreographed for and by women, and on Friday, two of the six dancers, Andee Scott and Bliss Kohlmyer, were unable to be in the show. I wondered if there was a sensation of disappointment rooted in not-getting-what-you-paid-for. And yet this is art — what does anyone intend to “get” out of it? My mind roamed from ideas of acquisition and consumerism to a simple feeling of fear of missing out on the fullest performance experience. Does this feeling come from a kind of per-

sonal efficiency — that we can't possibly “waste” a moment on something incomplete or imperfect?

In exploring my perspective of dance since arriving at the College and studying the art form more seriously, I have come to the conclusion that for me, appreciating art is not about getting something out of it or understanding it. Rather, it is about the experience — how a performance or a work makes you feel, the thoughts or images that it inspires and the awareness that both the artist and the viewer are intimately involved in that interaction. But this kind of experience necessitates openness on the part of the viewer and a willingness to let oneself be taken in to access the raw interplay of perception and expression.

This interplay was particularly strong and verging on the uncomfortable with Amy Chavasse's 2014 work from the University of Michigan, “Conspiracy Going,” as the flow of often nonsensical spoken text challenged one's sense of what words signify, and how disorienting it can be when words do not go together in their expected patterns of usage. The text was adapted from an anonymous blog post commenting on a 2008 performance by Chavasse.

An intensely effective moment of this piece was when Chavasse repeated a single phrase with one movement corresponding to each word, beginning by stating each word slowly with the motion, and gradually speeding up to form one cohesive phrase of word and motion that took on meaning gradually as one came to see how they went together.



COURTESY MARY WILLIFORD SHADE

Mary Williford Shade shines in her performance of “In Her Solitude: Lest We Forget.”

er. It provoked the question of how we perceive language and meaning, asking whether words make any sense in distinctive units or if they only gain meaning in relation to other words and underlying contextualization.

Assistant Professor of Dance Tzveta Kassabova presented her 2009 work “Letter (to Ed),” a deeply emotive piece in which her virtuosic choreographic

and performance ability left some audience members in tears. Her performance was punctuated with several moments in which her body was still, but her gaze to a space beyond the audience conjured the sensation of great distance, contrasting with powerful and reaching movements in the piece that felt as if they traversed such a distance. One of those moments was when Kassabova leapt up with her arms extended outwards and executed a mid-air contraction and outward kick that felt like a burst of energy from her center.

Pamela Pietro of the New York University Tisch School of the Arts performed her 2014 piece “You are That” and also utilized intentional gaze to seize the audience's attention, which would not have been difficult in the first place because her stage presence demanded it. In one particularly striking moment, Pietro directly faced the audience, intently but expressionlessly staring out and repeatedly circling her hips. The audience experienced that repetitive sensation of when a motion or a word's constructed significance or connotation begins to wear off — and we begin to question anew what it might mean.

“In Her Solitude: Lest We Forget” is a 2009 piece choreographed by Ursula Payne and performed by Mary Williford Shade of Texas Woman's University, in which Shade interacted with a white rocking chair. For me this work gained a very strong symbolic arc when, after Shade's movement conversation with the rocking chair as an object and a partner, she actually sat down on the chair for just a moment, only to rise again rapidly, provoking me to think that perhaps she realized that she could not occupy the same chair as whoever came before, and that she had to create and continue her own dance.

In the abstract art form of modern dance the viewer has the opportunity and the challenge to experience or interpret meaning to the movement as they will, if only they trust and take the risk of opening him or herself to that interaction with the performers.



COURTESY BLISS KOHLMEYER

Bliss Kohlmyer, who appeared only in Saturday night's show, participated in a series of master classes in conjunction with Sola.

**DON'T
MISS
THIS**

Western Reception of Greek & Roman Art
Professor of history of art and architecture and associate curator of ancient art Pieter Broucke explores the persistent fascination with classical antiquity through works selected from the museum's collection.
3/13, 12:15 P.M., MAHANEY CENTER FOR THE ARTS

Omar
In this dynamic drama, Omar is a Palestinian baker who routinely climbs over the separation wall to meet up with his girlfriend. By night he risks his life to strike at the Israeli military. After his arrest and torture, Omar courts danger by becoming an informant.
3/14, 3:00 AND 8:00 PM, DANA AUDITORIUM

Timothy Cummings and Guests
This year's St. Patrick's Day celebration features a hybrid of concert and participatory dance, highlighting the rich and related traditions of Ireland and Appalachia. With a fiddle, piper, banjo, harp and mandolin, this gathering is sure to warm both hearts and bodies at winter's end.
3/15, 4:00 PM, WILSON HALL

Global Voices Shine in Songs and Arias



COURTESY MIKE MCCANN

Student vocalists and concert pianist Cynthia Huard take a bow to well-deserved applause after their annual performance of "Songs and Arias" last Saturday night in the MCA.

By Will Simpson

Myriad voices filled the lofty ceilings of the Kevin P. Mahaney '84 Center for the Arts (MCA) Concert Hall this past Saturday, as the College's annual "Songs and Arias" performance began. Seven vocal students sang in the event, performing a mix of solo songs and duets.

The show started about a decade ago as an avenue for student vocalists to showcase their talents in a departmental performance.

"The event began as a concert that would feature the singers who enjoy and excel at singing the classical repertoire," voice teacher Carol Christensen said. "The singers selected for this concert are far enough along in their technical studies to learn, perfect and perform a set of challenging songs, arias or small vocal ensembles."

In preparation for the event, the performers met in one-on-one lessons with their respective voice teachers once or twice a week. Typical rehearsals involved technical vocal exercises for the first 15 minutes, allowing students to focus on techniques like breath control, range, legato, agility, placement and tone color.

"Students would then spend the rest of the lesson working through the technical and interpretive challenges each song

offers, and had to take the initiative to practice their repertoire between lessons and rehearsals," Christensen said.

This practice outside of rehearsals helped the students to completely memorize all of their music for the show. Practice schedules varied only for duet rehearsals that required group meetings.

Jack DesBois '15, who sang a cycle of Shakespeare songs by 20th century English composer Gerald Finzi, noted that individualized rehearsing kept an element of surprise among the performers on the night of the show.

"We didn't really know what the other singers [were] going to be bringing to the concert on Saturday," he said.

Hannah Johnston '15, who performed both a solo and a duet, enjoyed the rehearsal and performance atmosphere despite this separation.

"It was nice to come together and watch what people have been working on and to be really proud of [my] friends for doing something impressive," Johnston said. "The performance allowed us to join as a musical community to support one another."

Christensen reiterated this cohesiveness and sense of community.

"The students I have in the concert this year are all seniors, so we have spent many hours together over the years," she

said. "I consider them all to be very close, special friends."

Although the "Songs and Arias" performance featured some English songs, a large portion of the numbers were in German, Italian or French.

"Working with any voice teacher, you really start with the classical repertoire, which usually means Italian arias at the beginning, maybe moving into German arias, lieder, and a bit of French," DesBois said. "It's been really wonderful to start singing in English."

Johnston, who sang Carl Maria von Weber's "Kommt ein schlanker Bursch gegangen" as one of her pieces, concurred.

"The vocal recitals are about a smaller group of people getting together to perform a classical repertoire," she said. "It's about expressing music in the classical tradition in many different languages."

Christensen agreed, pointing to the College's strong language programs as a positive influence on the rehearsal process.

"Many Middlebury students are quite adept at a foreign language," Christensen said. "We have fun delving into the meaning of the text, and talking about what [the students] can do from a vocal and interpretive standpoint to bring the song to life and make it their own."

The performance of "Songs and Arias" itself was quite powerful, featuring a range of talented singers. The acoustics of the performance space fit well with the songs, and all of the singers were clearly audible from the back of the Concert Hall. The performers were very focused during their songs, and clearly sought to keep the audience's attention with hand gestures and flourishes. The foreign language pieces were well done, and the duets were seamlessly coordinated. DesBois' performance particularly resonated with me, featuring a broad variety of moods and tempos which ranged from more slow and somber numbers to fast-paced songs with humorous sound effects. Unfortunately, the hoarseness in his voice from a recent cold was evident in parts of his Shakespearean cycle, and the inclusion of four whole selections made his segment seem a tad lengthy.

Overall, the "Songs and Arias" show was a triumph which delighted audience members from the student and broader communities.

"It was obvious how much effort went into preparing for the show," Devin McGrath-Conwell '18.5 said. "The variation of the styles and songs reflected in the program is a wonderful tribute to the talent of the performers. I enjoyed every moment of it."

BOOKING IT

BY GABRIELLE OWENS

I did not realize the brilliance of Neil Gaiman's writing until, attempting to recommend his novel *Neverwhere* to a friend, I realized what a difficult time I had describing the plot. This was not because the book was difficult to understand or fractured into excess subplots; to the contrary, it is wonderfully written with a driven, exciting story. I had trouble describing the book because of its sheer originality. There are many familiar elements like protagonists and antagonists, a murdered family, a quest for answers and revenge, an attempt to return home, a sprinkling of romance and friendships. After helping a young woman, a man named Richard Mayhew finds himself stuck in her bizarre and fantastical world. However, this is not Narnia, and Richard does not pass through a portal or ride a magical train away into this strange world. In fact, at first he does not physically go anywhere at all. Simply by interacting with the young woman named Door, he "falls through the cracks."

In *Neverwhere*, there are two Londons, London Above, which is life as we know it, and London Below, which is a strange and semi-magical place occupied by people who have "fallen through the cracks" and are no longer truly visible to

the people of London Above. However, London Below occupies the same physical space as London Above, fitting itself into the empty and unnoticed spaces. It takes up empty Tube trains, rooftops and Harrods after closing, imbuing them with strange and magical qualities. The people who live in London Below are likewise strange and sometimes magical. Door, for instance, has the ability to open any door, anywhere.

Most of Gaiman's novels have a similar feeling. They are fantastical, but they rarely take the form of the epic quest, chosen-one-who-saves-the-world type of fantasy. They are usually dark, and tend to feature

worlds such as London Below, which are simultaneously part of our world and separate from it. There is a disturbing quality to many of his novels and short stories. They go places you do not quite expect, were not prepared for, and are not sure that you like. His newest book, a short story collection called *Trigger Warning*, is specifically an exploration of that idea. While Gaiman is one of my favorite authors and I have, so far, immensely enjoyed everything I have read by him, *Neverwhere*

is probably my favorite. For me there is something especially captivating about the story. It has an exciting page-turner plot, that is perhaps faster-paced than some of his books, but I think there is also something beguiling about the world of London Below. Perhaps it is its closeness to the real world and the ease with which Richard slips into it.

There is a clear bit of social commentary hovering on the edges of this novel. The characters who are not big-shots in London Below end up begging in the Tube

NEVERWHERE BY NEIL GAIMAN

from London Above and London Below inhabitants alike, barely visible to either. The idea of falling through the cracks is not simply a

fantasy. It is, of course, a harsh and difficult reality for many people, especially in a big city. Richard is also new to London, having moved from Scotland, perhaps suggesting that it was much easier for him to fall through the cracks because he was already in an unfamiliar place without many friends or people to remember him, which is of course the case with many people who move from small towns to big cities. That said, I do not believe Gaiman in any way intended *Neverwhere* as com-

mentary or allegory. While it leaves the reader something to ponder, it is not the focus of the novel at all.

One of the other reasons I particularly love this book are its characters. Richard and Door, the two protagonists of the book, spend most of it exploring London Below trying to find someone named Islington. Besides allowing the reader to get many different glimpses of London Below, this brings them into contact with any number of colorful characters, from the sarcastic Marquis de Carabas to the flamboyant Earl to the stoic and legendary Hunter. The characters and their various quirks and murky backgrounds are what truly brings the novel and the world that Gaiman creates to life. Even characters such as Croup and Vandemar, who fall neatly into the blundering henchmen stereotype, add a great deal of flavor to the story.

In the hands of a less skilled writer, this book could easily have collapsed into a boring pattern. The two main objectives of the novel — Richard's quest to return to his home and Door's quest to discover answers about her family's murder — are broadly familiar ones. However, Gaiman's incredibly original and occasionally unsettling world, coupled with his brilliantly vivid characters, is fascinating, unpredictable and thrilling.

Arts Spotlight: Performing Arts Series

BY NIMROD SADEH

This Saturday, two French/Catalan sisters, a Swede and a Scot cross the puddle to give the College one of the most vibrant and impassioned quartet performances of the millennia. The Elias String Quarter has risen like a meteor through the chamber music universe and into our own Performing Arts Series.

Too often students report the cost of arts events as barriers to their attendance. To that end, this concert will be completely free and open to the public. Be sure to come to the Kevin P. Mahaney '84 Center for the Arts (MCA) Concert Hall slightly

before 8 p.m. on Saturday, March 14, for great seating.

The Elias quartet is a relatively young ensemble, having debuted in 2012, but have been playing together for the past 17 years. This weekend they have chosen to perform Beethoven's late quartets, three complex and incredible pieces.

The first piece that the Elias quartet will play tonight is the 11th quartet in F-minor. Beethoven started to write this piece in 1810, a particularly tumultuous time in Vienna, where he lived for most of his life. 1810 was the height of the Napoleonic campaigns across Europe, and Vienna, the capital of the Austrian-Hungarian empire, was under constant bombardment.

All of Beethoven's composer-friends left the besieged city but him, although he complained endlessly about the constant noise of the bombardment. An eyewitness account from the time tells that the composer hid in his brother's basement and covered his ears with pillows to protect the little hearing he had left at the time. Out of this chaos came the short but incredibly powerful 11th quartet, labeled *Serioso* by the publisher.

Beethoven never intended for this quartet to be played to the public, but rather planned for it to circulate in small settings amongst his composer and royal friends. When you hear Elias play it, you may understand why. The war brought out the character changes that transformed

Beethoven's heroic middle period into the genius late period.

This quartet, among other late pieces, does things that musicians at that time would not have dreamed of in their wildest dreams. Rapid outbursts, rapidly evolving motifs and an unprecedented use of silences characterize this wartime quartet. It is a piece that demands not only technical mastery, but also vibrancy and intensity. This piece matches the Elias quartet's best traits.

Following the 11th, the Elias quartet will play the 16th quartet in F-major. This is the last significant work that Beethoven finished; he died in March of 1827, about five months after he completed the 16th quartet in October 1826. The most striking movement of this quartet is undoubtedly the finale, named by Beethoven *Der schwer gefaßte Entschluß* — "the difficult decision." It starts with slow, dark chordal progression labeled *muss es sein* — "must it be?" and resolves into a nimble answer, labeled *es muss sein!* — "it must be!"

The 16th is a very flexible piece throughout. It moves from misty, bemused chordal cadences into complex, rapid counterpoint without fluttering an eyelid. It is another genius piece from Beethoven's late period.

We step back a very small step in Beethoven's biography to play the 14th quartet in C-sharp minor, completed in early 1826. Although any musicians reading this probably detest C-sharp minor (four sharps!), this is Beethoven's favorite key. It is stoic, dramatic, complex and elusive, like the composer himself.

This quartet is almost twice as long as the 11th that Elias will begin the concert with, and many times it is more sophisticated. It captures leftover energy from *Missa Solemnis*, the grand choral mass written a few years earlier, that lends it a spiritual, puzzling tone. There is powerful melancholy present behind every note, written with a mastery that puzzled great composers for generations to come. After Franz Schubert heard this quartet, he said: "after this, what is left for us to write?" Robert Schumann remarked: *grandeur [...] which no words can express. They seem to me to stand ... on the extreme boundary of all that has hitherto been attained by human art and imagination.*

Come to the MCA Concert Hall at 8 p.m. on Saturday, March 14, for this entirely free performance by one of the best quartets in the nation. Associate Professor of Music Larry Hamberlin will offer a pre-concert lecture at 7:00 p.m. in Room 221 for all interested.



COURTESY ALAN KIMARA DIXON

The Elias String Quartet will perform Beethoven's 11th, 16th and 14th quartets in the MCA Concert Hall this coming Saturday.

ONE LIFE LEFT

By Brandon Cushman

Child of Light is a platformer role-playing game that takes place in the fantastical world of Lemuria. You play as the young girl Aurora, an Austrian princess who wakes up to find herself in a strange world with even stranger creatures. Over the course of the game, you meet the different characters of Lemuria, from the mouse-like Populi to the circus-performing Aerostati, and befriend all of them. You learn that things are not quite right in this country and that the malevolent Queen of Night is keeping the people captive through the use of dark magic and evil minions. Aurora must fight her way through this strange world to save Lemuria and return to her ailing father. Along the way, Aurora learns that to be a good ruler, she must often put the needs of others above her own desires.

Ubisoft Montreal, a big name company in the gaming industry known mostly for the *Assassin's Creed* series, released *Child of Light* in April 2014. However, *Child of Light* is a step in quite a different direction for the developer. The game showcases an absolutely stunning animated backdrop. All of the dif-

ferent environments were carefully hand drawn and scanned into the game. The player feels as though they are walking through a painting as they traverse the beautiful landscapes of Lemuria. The artists did a fantastic job making the game feel just like a child's dream.

Over the course of the game Aurora must face many dark creatures and servants of the Queen of Night. Combat in *Child of Light* is time-based. At the bottom of the screen during an encounter there is a time bar which all of the characters move along depending on their speed statistic and the action they are about to take. This is not a common style among these types of games — most similar games use a simple turn-based mode. Compared to the combat style, the time-based system kept me more involved with each encounter. While I was waiting for Aurora and her party to move along the bar, I was busy trying to slow my opponents down and timing my hits to interrupt their attacks.

Another thing the developers did well with the combat was making char-

acters compatible with each other. You are allowed to have two party members on the field at any given time during a fight. Over time, I found that certain characters worked especially well together. For example, my favorite team consisted of Aurora and her sister. Aurora's sister Norah has abilities that slow down her enemies while speeding up her teammates. This allowed me to minimize the attacks of the enemy while allowing Aurora to bombard them with her spells and sword.

CHILD OF LIGHT

The best thing the game has going for it is the storyline and the way it is presented. The entire game is presented as a poem. All narration and dialogue within the game follows a rhyming scheme. This aspect of the game was not only beautiful, but also very entertaining at times. One of the characters has an inability to rhyme and is often corrected by the others with a word that fits the rhyming scheme. The main reason I enjoyed the poetic narrative is for its originality. I have never played another game that has used this style of storytelling and I they

did an excellent job with it.

I only had two complaints with *Child of Light*. The first was that the levels could become a bit grindy. I found myself running from one battle to the next with the same enemies which could get a bit tiring at times. My second complaint was that the puzzles they presented you with were the same every time. You needed to open a door to the next area, used Igniculus the firefly to illuminate a few panels on the door and *voilà* — it opened. However, given that the game is only about 13 hours long, these were minor annoyances which didn't add up to much in the end.

Overall, I give *Child of Light* a 9.5 out of 10. I immensely enjoyed this game for its engaging story, original narrative and engaging combat system. While the game could be a little bit of a grind at times, the feeling never lasted too long and new developments in the story followed soon after. If you are looking for a good, story-centric game to play in between exam weeks or to play through over the upcoming break, I highly recommend *Child of Light* and hope you enjoy it as much as I did.

Track Competes in Last-Chance Meets

By Bryan Holtzman

The track teams were in action this past weekend in the final round of meets before the NCAA Championships. Several Panthers were making last-ditch efforts to qualify for the NCAA meet while others sat tight and hoped they were not bumped by other competitors around the country.

The top 15 men, top 17 women and top 12 relays in each gender that declare for the NCAA meet qualify. A group of runners was sent to the Tufts Final Qualifier on Friday, March 6 and another group elected to compete at ECAC Championships at the Armory in New York City on March 6 and 7.

After the dust settled, the men qualified one individual and the women qualified four individuals and one relay

BY THE NUMB3RS

8

Overtime games played by women's hockey this season, of which they lost only one to Trinity in the NESCAC Championship on Sunday.

Panther skiers named to the National Collegiate All-Academic team.

7

602

NCAA-leading career Division III men's hockey coaching wins for Bill Beane, who will step down as coach after 28 seasons with the Panthers.

team for the NCAA meet.

As has been the case for the last few years, the Tufts Final Qualifier was a disappointment for the Middlebury competitors. Kevin Wood '15 was third in the 5000m, running 14:57.17, which was not an improvement on his indexed best time of 14:46.42, a time leaving him ranked 23rd — ultimately not good enough to get into the Big Dance.

The men's distance medley relay of Sam Cartwright '16, Alex Nichols '17, Luke Carpinello '16 and Wilder Schaaf '14.5 finished seventh by running 10:11.74; again, not an improvement on their indexed time of 10:06.09, ranking them 17th and leaving them on the outside looking in.

Down at the Armory, Hannah Blackburn '17 broke her school record in the pentathlon by scoring 2931 points, good for seventh place in the ECAC.

"Every pentathlon is different, and this one started off poorly with high jump," Blackburn said, "but then I actually learned how to run an 800, so that was good. Plus there were only a few of us at the meet, so it was also a great opportunity for bonding before the spring break trip."

Kevin Serrao '18 concluded his suc-

cessful rookie campaign by running 1:55.79 in the 800m to finish 11th. Also in the 800m was Addis Fouche-Channer '17, who ran 2:23.67 to finish 17th. Taylor Shortsleeve '15 made his last indoor high jump as a Panther, clearing 1.92m (6'3.50") for a 12th-place finish.

This year's NCAA Championships will be held at the JDL Fast Track in Winston-Salem, NC, on March 13 and 14. Schaaf was the lone Middlebury male to qualify for the meet and will be running the mile for the second year in a row. He is seeded eighth this year and looks to improve on his ninth place finish last year in Lincoln, Neb.

For the women, Alison Maxwell '15, Summer Spillane '15 and Sarah Guth '15 will all run the mile and are all seeded for All-American positions, entering the meet as the second, sixth and eighth seeds, respectively.

Adrian Walsh '16 is seeded 13th in the 5000m, an event she finished ninth in last year while competing for the Hamilton Continentals. The distance medley relay squad of Maxwell, Alex Morris '16, Paige Fernandez '17 and Ersie Nagy '17 is seeded sixth. The Middlebury DMR finished seventh last year after a third place finish in 2013 and victories in 2011 and 2012.

"Every pentathlon is different, and this one started off poorly with the high jump, but then I actually learned how to run an 800."

HANNAH BLACKBURN '17
PENTATHLETE

THE MIDDLEBURY GREAT GFB EIGHT

RANKING

TEAM

Mac's Musings

1

WOMEN'S LAX

Winning 19-2 against any team, even Middlebury Union's JV squad, is pretty impressive.

2

MEN'S LAX

Congrats on first the W, boys. Still lots of work to be done before this weekend.

3

TRACK AND FIELD

Things didn't go great at Tufts, but there were some impressive times at the Armory in NYC.

4

WOMEN'S HOCKEY

That NESCAC Championship should have been theirs. Chance for redemption now.

5

SKIING

Not a knock on the skiers. Big weekend coming up.

6

BASEBALL

Big things coming this year. Get your laughs in now.

7

TENNIS

Both squads open up the spring season on Saturday with high expectations.

8

UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA

The disgusting remarks made by some is forcing recruits away.

PANTHERS STAGE COMEBACK AGAINST CONN. COLLEGE

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 20

credit to Middlebury goaltender Will Ernst '17, who solidified the Panther backline with 14 saves on the day.

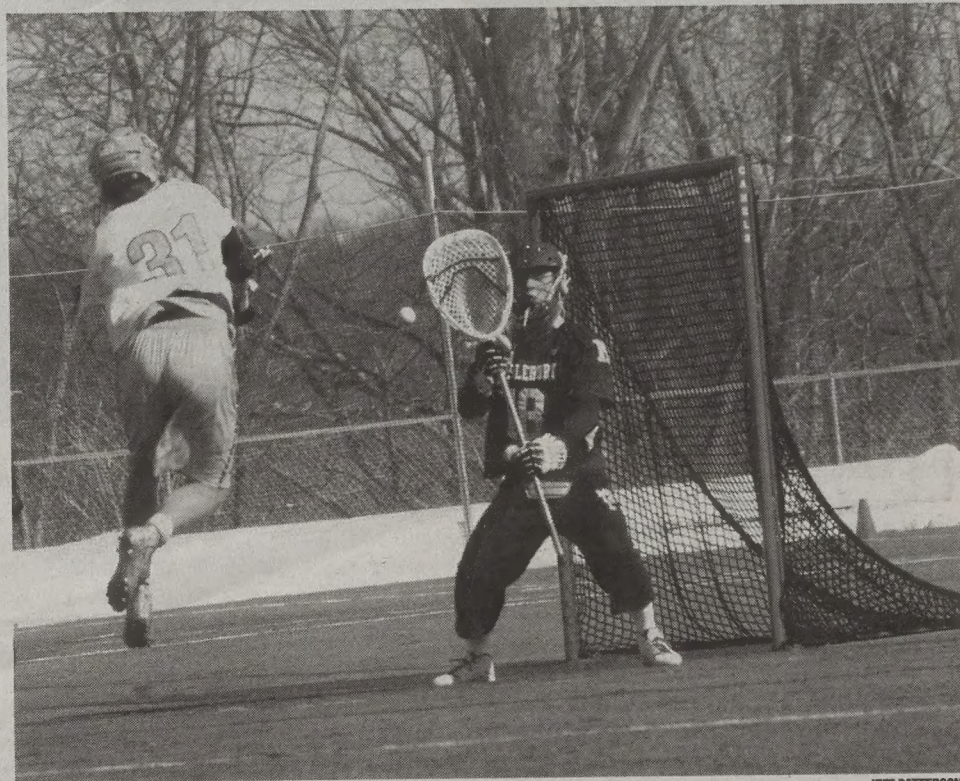
The team extended their winning streak to three games on Tuesday, March 10 with a 13-11 victory over St. Lawrence University. Mid-week games are never easy, especially when a three and a half-hour bus ride is part of the equation, however, the Panthers were up to the task against a solid Saints squad who had won two of their last three matchups. In so doing, Middlebury avenged last year's 14-7 loss with a 13-11 victory. Though not a NESCAC matchup, St. Lawrence competes in a high-quality conference, making the win crucial to the Panthers' momentum as they continue their season.

In what is becoming a rather adverse trend, the Panthers went down in the first half but managed to pull out the victory through a second half comeback. Though they built an early 3-1 lead with goals from Joey Zelkowitz '17, Jack Cleary '16, and Rautiola, the Saints quickly stormed back with two goals

apiece from Jeremy Vautour and Tommy Hovey as well as a first half hat-trick for Conor Healy. Had it not been for Tim Giarrusso '16 with two early second quarter goals the game could have been out of reach at the half.

In a similar fashion to their last bout with Conn. College, Middlebury tightened up defensively in the second half to shut the Saints out in the third quarter and allow only three goals in the remainder of the game. On the other side of the ball, the squad dumped in four in the third quarter, as Cleary and Rautiola both scored their second goals of the day. First-year midfielder Henry Riehl '18 added one goal as a part of the man-up unit, and Nick Peterson '18 also got on the board, scoring his first career goal. With another solid day in net from goaltender Will Ernst '17 and a quality day at the face-off X for John Jackson '18, the Panthers ultimately pulled out another win to go to 3-1 on the year.

The Panthers return to action on Saturday, March 14 when last year's regular season NESCAC runner-up Wesleyan travels to Middlebury.



JEFF PATTERSON

Will Ernst '17 makes one of his 14 saves, stopping a shot by Conn. College to keep the game close enough in the third period for the Panthers to mount a comeback.

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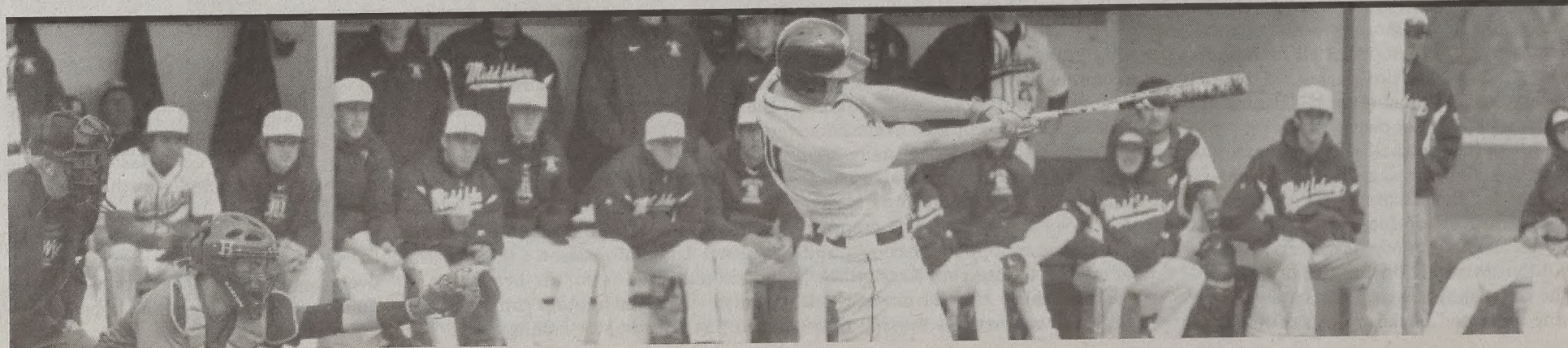
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Women's Hockey Upset in NESCAC Final

By Fritz Parker

Trinity junior Cheeky Herr deflected a puck over the shoulder of Middlebury goalkeeper Maddie Marsh '15 in the first minute of overtime to send her team to their first ever NESCAC women's hockey title on Saturday, March 7 in Kenyon Arena. The Middlebury squad — 4-2 winners over Bowdoin in Saturday's semifinal — was selected to participate in the upcoming NCAA tournament despite the conference setback, and will host a quarterfinal game on Saturday.

After beating Hamilton in the conference quarterfinals the week before, the Panthers faced off with fifth-seed Bowdoin in semifinal action on Saturday. After a relatively quiet first period, Middlebury broke through for the game's first goal on a power-play strike from Hannah Bielawski '15, assisted by Carly Watson '17 and Jessica Young '18.

Up 1-0 in the early minutes of the second period, NESCAC Player of the Year Emily Fluke '15 added to the lead with assists from Young and Janka Hlinka '18. A pair of Bowdoin penalties later in the period did not result in further scoring for Middlebury, and the Panthers went into the second intermission with a two-goal lead over the Polar Bears.

The lead expanded in the sixth minute of third-period play on a tally from Elizabeth Wulf '18. From that point, however, the Polar Bears were able to wrest some of the momentum from the Panthers, gaining several advantages on the offensive end of the ice.

Bowdoin cut into the lead with a goal at the six-minute mark to make the score 3-1. Fluke's second of the game — and her 20th of the season — brought the Panther lead back up to three before Bowdoin fired back with a goal of their own.

Just as the game started to tighten up in the second half of the final period, the

Panther defense stepped up to deny several Bowdoin scoring opportunities. After killing off a penalty in the final minutes of the game, Middlebury went on to win 4-2 to advance to the league final.

Middlebury held a 29-21 shooting advantage in the game, playing the entire 60 minutes without committing a penalty, while going one for two on the man-up advantage.

After Trinity defeated second-seed Amherst in Friday's late semifinal, the stage was set for Saturday's final between the Panthers and Bantams. The two teams played twice during the regular season, splitting a weekend double-header in Hartford all the way back on Nov. 22 and 23.

The final did not begin as the Panthers had envisioned, however. Trinity's Herr beat Marsh for her first goal of game in just the third minute of play. That lead would quickly expand to two as Bantam Emma Tani caught a juicy rebound after Marsh had laid out to make a pair of tough stops, burying the put-back to give her team a 2-0 lead over the favored Panthers.

The atmosphere in Kenyon Arena changed markedly after the second Trinity goal, which brought a murmur over the crowd of primarily Middlebury supporters. The crowd grew even quieter after a pair of clean looks for the Bantams in the 15th minute of the period nearly resulted in another Trinity goal, but Marsh again fended off the puck in order to keep the deficit to two as time ran out on the opening period.

The Panthers got a chance to cut into the lead in the first minute of the second period when Trinity's Shelby Lane went to the penalty box for interference. The Bantams killed off the penalty as goalkeeper Sydney Belinskas stopped a pair of hard blasts from Bielawski, but Middlebury was soon able to convert the



ANAH NARANJO

The Middlebury women's hockey team was able to band together to beat Bowdoin 4-2 in the NESCAC Semis, but ultimately dropped the Championship on Sunday.

offensive momentum into their first goal of the game, which came from Wulf who just got her stick on a feed from Katie Mandigo '16.

Wulf nearly struck again in the final minute of the period, but Belinskas deflected the puck away to held her team cling to a one-goal lead after two periods of play.

After a Trinity penalty led to a Middlebury powerplay, Maddie Winslow '18 was able to break through a scrum that formed in front of the Trinity net to slide the puck past the goalkeeper. The referees initially ruled no goal on the play, but changed their call a split second later to give the Panthers the game-tying goal and send the crowd into hysterics.

Finding themselves again on the power play midway through the period, the Panthers inundated the Bantam net with shots but could not beat Belinskas for the game-winner. After several minutes of even play, Fluke fired off a wrister through a screen as the clock expired, which Belinskas gloved to send the game to extra time.

It would take less than a minute of overtime to decide the result. Just 54 seconds into the period, Herr deflected the puck past Marsh to take the game 3-2 and the conference title as well.

Middlebury took a loss in the title game despite doubling up Trinity in the shooting department, 44-22. Belinskas had an exemplary night in the net for the Bantams with 42 saves, while Marsh stopped 19 shots for the Panthers in her second loss of the year.

While Trinity claimed the conference's automatic bid to the NCAA tournament with their conference championship win — just the program's second ever appearance in the national tourney — the Panthers were selected as an at-large participant when the committee released the field on Monday, March 9.

The Panthers return to the tournament after an uncharacteristic absence a year ago, just the second time that the team had failed to qualify for the eight-team field. Middlebury advanced to the national final during their last trip in 2013, falling there to Elmira. The Panthers last hoisted the national championship trophy in 2006.

Fifth-ranked Middlebury's path back to the title game begins on Saturday, March 14, when they will host fourth-ranked Norwich at 7:00 p.m. in Kenyon Arena. The Panthers won 2-1 in overtime during the teams' lone matchup this season, and will look for a similar result with the stakes ramped up this time around.

PANTHER SCOREBOARD

WOMEN'S HOCKEY vs. Trinity

3-2 (OT) L

The NESCAC Championship loss was the eighth time this season the women's hockey team has battled it out in overtime.

MEN'S LACROSSE vs. Conn. College

13-9 W

The men mounted a 6-0 second-half run to pick up their first NESCAC win of the season.

WOMEN'S LACROSSE vs. Conn. College

19-2 W

The Panthers scored nine-straight goals in the first half to blow past Conn. College.

EDITORS' PICKS



REMO PLUNKETT (34-22, .607)



ALEX MORRIS (51-46, .525)



FRTZ PARKER (75-69, .520)



EMILY BUSTARD (28-26, .518)



JOE MACDONALD (46-55, .455)

Who will win Saturday's NCAA quarterfinal matchup in women's hockey: Middlebury or Norwich?

MIDDLEBURY

Tough loss to Trinity, but this team still has a fight left in them.

MIDDLEBURY

They're too good for last weekend to get the better of them.

NORWICH

You clowns keep putting the same answer for everything...

MIDDLEBURY

We have a good record of coming out on top of close matchups this season.

MIDDLEBURY

Middlebury should be hungry and inspired after the NESCAC Championship.

Will skiing finish 10th or better at this weekend's NCAA championships?

NO

I think it's just too tough of a field for the Panthers to break the top 10.

NO

There's just not enough manpower behind them this year.

YES

...it's like you actually care what your little percentage thing is.

NO

Middlebury didn't receive enough votes in the January 30 coaches poll to be placed in the top 10.

NO

Close call, but I think we fall just outside for the second year in a row.

Closest to: How many goals for Laurel Pascal '16 in Saturday's game against Wesleyan?

THREE

Go Taft!

THREE

She seems to score a lot.

TWO

I'm here to keep the people entertained...

TWO

Her teammates should help her capitalize on scoring opportunities.

FOUR

Wesleyan was not so good last year. Big game coming for Pascal.

Will Kevin Harvick finish in the top two in Saturday's NASCAR Sprint Cup Series race at Phoenix?

NO

Obviously Ricky Bobby will place both first and second in the Sprint Cup race.

NO

Oh god. NASCAR....

YES

...unlike you hardos.

NO

That race will be such a waste of gas! I just don't understand this sport.

NO

Is Jeff Gordon still racing?



SHOULDERING EXPECTATIONS

The women's hockey team kept the crowd on the edge of its seats as the Panthers fell to Trinity 3-2 in overtime of the NESCAC Title. Despite the loss, Middlebury was selected as an at-large participant in the upcoming NCAA tournament. See page 19 for full coverage.

ANAHI NARANJO

Women's Lacrosse Trumps Conn.

By Christine Urquhart

The Middlebury women's lacrosse team came out firing this past Saturday, March 7 to seal a 19-2 win over Connecticut College on Kohn Field. Coming off of their loss last week, the Panthers were focused and determined to respond.

"After our Tufts game we went over the film with our coaches and pinpointed a few areas that we needed to improve for our game against Conn. Our shooting percentage was not as high as we had hoped against Tufts, so that was definitely something we focused on in our practices. We also learned several new attack plays and sequences" Hollis Perticone '18 said.

Middlebury's high-powered offensive effort was balanced between 10 different players who all scored goals in the contest. Bridget Instrum '16, Alli Sciarretta '16, and Chrissy Ritter '16 each scored three goals apiece while Perticone, Katie Ritter '15, Bea Eppler '17 and Delania Smith '17 each contributed two goals to the win. In addition to her goals, Perticone had five draw controls and four caused turnovers.

Middlebury started the game trailing the Camels by one, but the Panthers fought back with an unassisted goal from Sciarretta to tie the game. From then on, Conn. had very little hope of a comeback. By the end of the first half, the Panthers were up 8-1. The squad relentlessly hit the gas on the offensive end of the field and managed to continue pumping goals

past the Conn. defense.

Middlebury kept up the pressure for the remainder of the game, and the Panthers were able to score 11 more goals. Conn. College, on the other hand, managed to convert on only one more scoring opportunity on the day.

Panther goaltender Madeline Kinker '16 recorded a pair of saves, while first-year Alex Freeman '18 played well in her first collegiate game.

Going into the game ranked tenth nationally, the Panthers lived up to their ranking and displayed their ability and potential to dominate in the NESCAC. Saturday's game was a good opportunity for the team to showcase its depth, as athletes from all classes rallied together to contribute to the win.



ANAHI NARANJO

Laurel Pascal '16 finished the game with six draw controls and three caused turnovers in the 19-2 win over Connecticut College.

Men's Lax Fights for Second-Half Win

By Trevor Schmitt

The Middlebury men's lacrosse team earned its first NESCAC victory of the season with a 13-9 win at Connecticut College on Saturday, March 7.

After surviving a strong early push from the Camels, which involved a four-goal first quarter, the Panthers went on a tear in the second half that included a 6-0 run, eventually leading to the 13-9 final score.

With the defeat Conn. College picks up its first conference loss of the season as their season record drops to 0-3. In so doing the Middlebury squad won its second consecutive game and improved to 2-1 on the season, and 1-1 in conference play.

Early in the game Conn. College's Tucker Mscisz made a large impact, scoring the first two goals of the contest unassisted. Additionally, Ross Thompson recorded a goal and an assist in the game's early stages to power the Camel offense. Leads, however, are not built exclusively on the offensive end.

In the first half, the Camels played a stifling zone defense which gave the Middlebury offense significant problems. Conn. also demonstrated stellar play between the pipes throughout the first half, which contributed to Middlebury's struggle to find the back of the net. Middlebury had the last scoring chance of the half, but Conn. goaltender Bobby Bleistein made a terrific stick save

in response to a Jon Broome '16 shot from point blank range, allowing the Camels to enter the halftime break with a 6-4 advantage.

The second half, however, was an entirely different story as Panthers on both ends of the field steadily began to exert influence and take control of the game.

To start the third quarter Jack Rautiola '16 continued his solid play with a goal assisted by senior Joel Blockowicz '15, who would ultimately lead the Panther offense with six points on the day. In his first career start attackman Nate Smith-Ide '17 notched two goals and two assists in the second half. Smith-Ide's contribution was certainly vital to the squad's ability to play from a deficit and regain the advantage.

Just as Conn. College exhibited strong defensive play in the first half, the Panthers stepped up defensively in the second half to shift the narrative of the game.

After allowing six first-half goals, the defense tightened up to let in only three after the halftime break. When asked about this dramatic shift, defenseman Eric Rogers '18 talked about an overall shift in the team's mentality. According to Rogers the defense simply "started winning individual matchups" while the offense "maintained more possession due in large part to more faceoff wins." The freshman defender also gave

SEE MEN'S LACROSSE, PAGE 18

INSIDE
SPORTS



TRACK GEARS UP
FOR NCAA INDOOR
CHAMPIONSHIPS
PAGE 18



DO THE SPORTS
EDITORS KNOW
ANYTHING ABOUT
NASCAR?
PAGE 19